

THE North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE

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CONTENTS.

Arrivals and Departures of Passengers, Shipping, &c.	
Advertisements—Latest dates—Births, Marriages, and Deaths, &c.	
LEADING ARTICLE—	
President Harrison's Message—II	65
SUMMARY OF NEWS	66
MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES—	
The Death of the Duke of Clarence	71
The Loss of the <i>Namchow</i>	71
Tchéng Ki-tong as an Author	72
Sir T. Sutherland's Speech	72
President Harrison's Message—I	73
REVIEW—	
French Mail Papers	74
OUTPORTS, &c —	
Chefoo	75
Chinkiang	76
Hankow	76
Japan	77
Newchwang	78
Tamsui	78
T'singkiangpu	78
PEKING GAZETTES	78
MEETINGS—	
Municipal Council	79
Chinese Religious Tract Society	80
AMUSEMENTS—	
Literary and Debating Society's Smoking Concert	81
Paper Hunt	81
S.V.C., "C" Co. Monthly Cup	81
Amoy Races	81
CORRESPONDENCE—	
Naval Courts of Enquiry	82
Japan Relief	82
POETRY—	
In Memory of Prince Albert Victor	82
MISCELLANEOUS—	
French Municipal School	83
The late Prince Albert Victor	83
The Rebellion in Mongolia	83
La Vie à Shanghai—I	84
Fire on Board the <i>Feitung</i>	85
Loss of the <i>Namchow</i>	85
Extensive Fire in Hongkong	85
The Great Earthquake in Japan	86
Eiffel Metallic Bridges for China	87
Non-chopped Cotton Goods	87
Notes from Native Papers	88
LAW REPORTS—	
H.B.M.'s Police Court	
R. v. Olsen	89
R. v. Couven and others	89
COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE AND WEEKLY SUMMARY—	
Market Report	90
Exchange Quotations	96
Share Quotations, &c.	96

Miscellaneous Intelligence.

LATEST MAIL DATES.

England	Dec. 11	Hankow	Jan. 18
San Francisco	10	Yokohama	13
Hongkong	Jan. 16	Nagasaki	17
Tientsin	10	Foochow	15

Shanghai mail advices of 12th December were received in London on the 15th January.

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The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, FRIDAY, JAN. 22, 1892.

THERE were two great questions on which the United States and the outside world were most anxious to hear what President Harrison had to say in his annual message to Congress, the Tariff and Silver. On those questions the presidential election this year will turn. The McKinley tariff lost the Republicans their majority in the House of Representatives; the declaration in favour of free coinage of silver lost the Democrats the governorship of Ohio. The President of course supports the McKinley tariff; he was elected by the money of the protected manufacturers, and except by the lavish use of the same money there is no chance of the Republicans carrying the country this autumn. But he is not very enthusiastic about the tariff after all. What he says does not amount to very much more than that the extra protection given by McKinley's Act has not done so much harm as the free-traders prophesied that it would. This is almost the whole of the section of the message bearing on this subject:—

"It is not my purpose to enter at any length into a discussion of the effects of the legislation to which I have referred, but a brief examination of the statistics of the Treasury and a general glance at the state of business throughout the country will, I think, satisfy any impartial inquirer that its results have disappointed the evil prophecies of its opponents and in a large measure realised the hopeful predictions of its friends. Rarely, if ever before, in the history of the country has there been a time when the proceeds of one day's labour or the product of one farmed acre would purchase so large an amount of those things that enter into the living of the masses of the people.

"I believe that a full test will develop the fact that the Tariff act of the Fifty-first Congress is very favourable in its average effect upon the prices of articles entering into common use.

"There is certainly nothing in the condition of trade, foreign or domestic, there is certainly nothing in the condition of our people of any class, to suggest that the existing tariff and revenue legislation bears oppressively upon the people or retards the commercial development of the nation. It may be argued that our

condition would be better if our tariff legislation were upon a free trade basis, but it cannot be denied that all the conditions of prosperity and of general contentment are present in a larger degree than ever before in our history, and that, too, just when it was prophesied they would be in the worst state.

"Agitation for radical changes in tariff and financial legislation cannot help, but may seriously impede, business, to the prosperity of which some degree of stability in legislation is essential.

"I think there are conclusive evidences that the new tariff has created several great industries which will, within a few years, give employment to several hundred thousand American working men and women. In view of the somewhat overcrowded condition of the labour market of the United States, every patriotic citizen should rejoice at such a result."

The *Economist* calls this "singularly feeble and inconsistent," and goes on to show how unjustifiably the President has misrepresented the figures of the commerce of the United States in 1891. It is true that the imports for the year ending 30th September last amounted to £175,000,000, or £2,200,000 more than in the preceding year, while the exports jumped up from £172,000,000 in 1889-90 to £184,600,000, a bound of £12,600,000, or 7½ per cent. But the increase in the imports is wholly in duty-free goods, there being a decrease of no less than £21,400,000 in dutiable articles, and this is no proof, though General Harrison seems to think it is, that the tariff is succeeding as it was intended to in shutting out foreign manufactures. Importers naturally, before the tariff came into operation, stopped as far as possible their imports of goods that were going to be put on the free list, and got in as much as they possibly could of goods on which the duties were to be raised, so that there has of course been a much larger import since of duty free-goods, while the large stocks of dutiable goods are being worked off. Until this influence is exhausted, it will be impossible to tell what is the real effect on American industries of the tariff. It has, of course, had nothing whatever to do with the increase in the exports, which is fully accounted for by the abundance of the American harvests in 1891, and

the deficiency in Europe. Farther, the President uses the well-worn arguments, which contradict themselves and have been so often refuted. He insists that manufactured articles are just as cheap to the American consumer as ever, and at the same time asserts that the tariff has "created several great industries." It is perfectly clear that if Americans can now profitably make things which they could not make before, it must be because they can get higher prices for the things they make, and it must be the consumer that pays these higher prices. President Harrison and Governor McKinley and the protectionist newspapers of the United States are obliged, and indeed do not hesitate, to tell the intelligent public of the United States, that they have taken off a lot of duties and made certain goods cheaper to the consumer, and raised a lot of other duties without making the goods any dearer. There must come a time when even the farmer who sticks to the *New York Tribune* because it was once edited by Horace Greeley will see the fallacy of this.

President Harrison is much more sound on the silver question. He is obliged to own that the silver legislation has entirely failed in its main object, which was to raise the price of silver, while it has succeeded as far as increasing the currency of the country is concerned. During the fiscal year the Treasury bought and put away in the vaults at Washington 48,393,113 ounces of silver at an average price of \$1.045 per ounce, and yet, with all this taken off the market, silver is cheaper than ever. But the President is still strongly opposed to the free coinage of silver, which, he believes, would "disastrously affect our business interests at home and abroad." He says—and here we are thoroughly in agreement with him:—

"We could not hope to maintain an equality in the purchasing power of the gold and silver dollar in our own markets, and in foreign trade the stamp gives no added value to the bullion contained in coins. The producers of the country, its farmers and labourers, have the highest interest that every dollar, paper or coin, issued by the government shall be as good as any other. If there is one less valuable than another its sure and constant errand will be to pay them for their toil and for their crops.

"The money lender will protect himself by stipulating for payment in gold, but the labourer has never been able to do that. To place business on a silver basis would mean a sudden and severe contraction of the currency by the withdrawal of gold and gold notes, and such an unsettling of all values as would produce a commercial panic. I cannot believe that a people so strong and prosperous as ours will promote such a policy."

He goes on remind the silver miners that the government has given them all the protection it possibly could, showing that they were right who said

that the silver legislation to which he refers was greatly prompted, not by a desire for the general good, but to conciliate the silver interest. "They should not forget," he says, "that the government is now buying and putting out of the market what is the equivalent of the entire product of our silver mines." This is a sentence to be seriously considered by all who are interested in the value of silver in terms of gold. *Cantabrigia vacuus*, and he only. The only real hope for silver is in the general adoption of bimetalism in Europe. The President looks to procuring this in time—he owns that the time is not yet—by the United States setting seriously to work to draw away and lock up all the gold in Europe. As to this the *Economist* says: "If in a year when the balance of trade, owing to the deficiency of European harvests, has turned so strongly in their favour they have been unable to keep their stock of gold from flowing away, it is not necessary for us to disturb ourselves over President Harrison's threatened raid upon our gold reserves. We shall know very well how to take care of these should occasion arise, and if the cause of bimetalism is not to flourish until it is forced upon Europe by organised American raids upon our stock of gold, its advocates may give up all hope."

Summary of News.

The French mail of 12th December arrived here on the 18th instant, by the M.M. Co.'s str. *Saghatien*.

A mail leaves to-morrow morning for Europe, by the M.M. Co.'s str. *Yangtsé*.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

SUPPLIED THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY EXCLUSIVELY TO THE "NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

THE RUSSIAN BUDGET.

London, 14th January.
The Russian Budget for 1892 is estimated to show a deficit of 74,000,000 roubles.

OBITUARY.

Prince Albert Victor of Wales.
Cardinal Manning.

THE DEATH OF PRINCE ALBERT VICTOR.

London, 15th January.

There is a general manifestation of grief at the decease of the Duke of Clarence. The papers are in mourning, the Queen is deeply afflicted, the Princess of Wales is crushed, and the Princess Victoria of Teck, the Duke's fiancée, is inconsolable.

The State funeral is to be at St. George's, Windsor.

THE DEATH OF THE DUKE OF CLARENCE.

London, 18th January.

The Court will go into mourning for Prince Albert Victor for six weeks and the public for three weeks.

The funeral takes place on Wednesday, and is to be of a military character.

THE DEATH OF THE DUKE OF CLARENCE.

London, 19th January.

Wednesday will be observed as a day of general mourning.

Numberless foreign Princes will attend the funeral.

Telegrams of sympathy have been received from every quarter of the globe.

(Supplied by the Desmond Telegraph Agency.)

The Abbey at Fécamp and the Benedictine Works have been burned down. Damage two millions.

THE CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE CONGRESS.

London, 31st December.

The second Congress of the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire will meet in London in June next to consider the relations between Great Britain and the Colonies, sea penny postage, and the direct cabling throughout the Empire.

KING HUMBERT AND PRESIDENT CARNOT.

2nd January.

The King of Italy and the President of the French Republic at the New Year receptions at their respective capitals both emphasised the assurance of a general desire for peace.—*Singapore Papers*.

YELLOW FEVER AT SANTOS.

London, 4th January.

The British Consul at Santos (Brazil) reports that yellow fever has carried off whole crews of a number of ships there.

FRANCE AND THE NEW TARIFF.

France has concluded already, or is engaged in concluding, reciprocity agreements with Sweden, Holland, Belgium, Switzerland, Greece, and the United States on the basis of the new tariff.

THE TROUBLE IN PAHANG.

Taiping, 1st January.

Sixty Sikhs, under the command of Assistant Commissioner H. T. Duhan, left here at midnight by the Government steamer *Mena* for the scene of the Pahang disturbance. They have taken one gun with them. There is some excitement.

3rd January.

Fifty more Sikhs left here this morning for Pahang, via Selangor. There is great excitement in Perak.

Teluk Anson, 3rd January.

The Superintendent of Lower Perak has sent five additional Sikh constables to strengthen the force at Tanjong Malim Station, near the Pahang boundary, although he is not apprehensive of any disturbances.—*Penang Gazette*.

THE FAMINE IN RUSSIA.

London, 5th January.

There is a growing discontent among the peasants in the famine-stricken districts in Russia, and it has been found necessary to call on the military to maintain order.—*Strait Times*.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK.

(Thermometers in the open air in a shaded situation in the English Settlement.)

		Fahr. Thermometer.		Rainfall
		Min.	Max.	
1891.				
Jan. 15	...	39°.5	48°.3	...
" 16	...	35°.8	48°.6	...
" 17	...	29°.0	40°.2	...
" 18	...	26°.0	42°.9	...
" 19	...	23°.8	44°.4	...
" 20	...	31°.6	45°.6	...
" 21	...	26°.5	41°.0	...
1892.				
Jan. 15	...	26°.5	36°.0	...
" 16	...	23°.5	41°.4	...
" 17	...	30°.0	44°.9	...
" 18	...	30°.2	48°.0	...
" 19	...	33°.3	39°.6	...
" 20	...	25°.5	42°.6	...
" 21	...	28°.5	41°.5	...

Sicawei weather report, 15th January: The depression announced yesterday as travelling from W. to E. was a long way off, has passed N. of Tientsin and to-day appears to be over the sea of Japan. This morning the barometer is rising at Shanghai. —16th January: The depression already announced passed over the north of Japan yesterday. The barometer rose on the north coast of China, with light or moderate N. winds. It remained steady on the south coast with light winds from E. and N.E. This morning the barometer is still rising at Shanghai, but is only slightly above the normal height. Winds will probably be light on the coast, from N.E. in the south and variable in the north. —Sunday, 17th January: Centre of low barometric pressures to the east of Japan, and of high pressures to the north of China. Yesterday the barometer rose over all the coast, with moderate monsoon. This morning it continues to rise steadily at Shanghai. Fine weather; continuation of same winds on the coast. —18th January: Yesterday the barometer began to fall at Tientsin, while it continued to rise at the southern stations. The winter monsoon prevailed with ordinary force all along the coast. This morning the barometer has begun to fall at Shanghai. —19th January: Barometric depression over the Sea of Japan N.W. of Tokio. Yesterday the barometer remained steady on the north coast, and rose slightly on the south. The monsoon was regular and moderate. This morning the barometer is nearly stationary at Shanghai. Fine weather; light monsoon on the south coast. —20th January: A depression of small extent passed north of Tientsin yesterday and occasioned S. winds at Shanghai; whilst in the Formosa Channel the N.E. monsoon continued to blow moderately. Yesterday evening the barometer began to rise at Tientsin with fresh N. breeze. This morning the barometer, already above the normal height, is still rising. Moderate monsoon on the coast. —21st January: A centre of high barometric pressure N.W. of Shanghai. Yesterday the barometer rose rapidly at Tientsin and Shanghai, and still remained steady at the southern stations. This morning the barometer has continued to rise at Shanghai. Fine weather probable at Shanghai, and in the south high pressures with strong N.E. monsoon.

We learn from the telegram sent by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to the Governor of Hongkong that H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence died on Thursday last, the 14th inst., at 9.30.

H.M.S. *Caroline* and H.I.J.M.S. *Tenwin*, with the White Ensign at half mast, fired minute guns on Wednesday for the late Duke of Clarence. The firing commenced at 4.25 p.m. and ceased at sundown, some sixty guns having been fired in that time.

News reached Shanghai on Friday last of a disastrous fire at Hankow, close to the border of the foreign concession. About 300 houses were destroyed, and the damage is estimated at Tls. 60,000 or Tls. 70,000.

It appears from our translation from the *Shênpuo* in another column, that not only does the redoubtable Li Hung actually exist, but that he has recently been before the Provincial Treasurer on the charge of being a leader of the *Kolao Hui*.

We would direct our readers' attention to the account in another column of the decided stand taken by the New York Chamber of Commerce in the matter of non-chopped cotton goods.

The report of the liquidators of the Chinese Insurance Co., Ltd., in liquidation, explains that the final return to shareholders will probably be \$11 per share.

In reference to the Imuriz mines, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. have received the following telegram from Messrs. J. Whittall & Co., dated London, 19th January, 1892:—"There has been delay in

connection with pumping machinery; milling most satisfactory, crushings proceeding vigorously in a few days; ore continues improving."

We understand that Mr. Chantrey Inchbald has left the Comptoir National d'Escompte, and joined the Bank of China, Japan, and the Straits, Ltd.

A telegram was received here on Saturday morning, dated Foochow, 10 a.m., announcing the sudden death at Pagoda Anchorage the same morning, of Mr. J. Vaughan, one of the Blue Funnel pilots. He left here on the 13th instant in the *Nestor*. The deceased came out to China in 1860 and was engaged building a dock at Pagoda Anchorage. He lived at Ningpo for a number of years and afterwards transferred his headquarters to Shanghai.

At a regular meeting of the Lodge of Assiduity, held in the Masonic Hall on Monday evening, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—

Wor. Bro. L. Moore Wor. Preceptor.
" Cawas Ludeca Secretary.
" S. R. Gale Treasurer.

The sum of \$250 was some short time ago remitted to the Kobe Relief Committee as proceeds of the second performance of *The Governor* on the 12th December.

The A.D.C. have decided to give their second performance of the season on the 25th February, when a very attractive bill will be offered to their supporters. Shortly after China New Year a meeting of subscribers will be called so that they themselves can decide how they would prefer the seating arrangements to be carried out.

The vocalists who performed at the Literary and Debating Society's smoking concert on Thursday night had the advantage of accompaniments on one of the best pianos in China—a new drawing-room grand, by Collard and Collard, supplied by Messrs. Moutrie, Robinson and Co. Its rich mellow tones were much enjoyed.

On Sunday morning at about 3 o'clock fire broke out in Wong Sung-ta's wood yard and burned for a couple of hours. As the locality is at the upper end of North Szechuen Road and claimed by the owners to be out of the Settlement, they pay no taxes, so the Fire Department was not called upon to extinguish the flames.

The following is a copy of a circular which is now lying at Messrs. Mustard & Co's for signature:—"Regarding the alterations which have taken place in the river, we, the undersigned pilots and shipmasters, beg to request that the buoy to be placed off Block Island and called the 'South East Knoll Buoy' marking the north side of the channel, be replaced by a gas buoy as it would lessen the danger of navigation by night as well as by day. From reports from home and Japan, we hear the gas buoy is a great success." The circular has already received a number of signatures and will, later on, be forwarded to the Coast Inspector.

Mr. P. E. Milhe, of the Imperial Customs Service, made a wonderful shot when out shooting, some twenty miles up the Swatow river, last Sunday week. He was surprised by five enormous pelicans suddenly rising from behind a bank at a distance of about fifty yards, but nevertheless took aim at the foremost one and fired. To Mr. Milhe's great astonishment three of them fell, shot dead. The surprising part of the performance was that the gun used was a common central-fire fowling-piece, and the cartridge the same that the successful 'shootist' ordinarily uses for geese. These pelicans are of enormous size, one, which Mr. Milhe has presented to the Shanghai Museum, measuring eleven feet across the wings, eight feet from beak to tail, and weighing 32 lbs. The length of beak was 22 inches. Considering the capital shooting that is to be obtained up the Swatow river, it is rather surprising that so very few

Hongkong sportsmen avail themselves of the frequent favourable opportunities of spending a few days in that locality.—*Hongkong Telegraph*.

His Eminence Henry Edward Manning, Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster, was born at Tottenham on the 15th of July, 1808. He was educated at Harrow and Oxford, and took orders in the Church of England, becoming Rector of Lavington and Archdeacon of Chichester. In 1851 he resigned these preferments and joined the Church of Rome, succeeding Cardinal Wiseman in the Archbishopric of Westminster in 1865, and being given the Cardinal's hat ten years later. He took great interest in all movements for the benefit of the working classes in London, and was an earnest supporter of Temperance. His episcopal jubilee was celebrated on the 8th of June, 1890. He was the author of a large number of works on the doctrines of the Church of Rome and its relations with civil society, including *The Temporal Power of the Pope*, a reply to Mr. Gladstone's Expostulation as to the Vatican decrees; and *The True Story of the Vatican Council*. His death is a great loss to more than the Roman Catholic Church in England, for his sympathies were very catholic, as was proved by the address presented to him by the Jewish Community in October, 1890.

A meeting of Fire Insurance agents interested in risks on contents of buildings in Chinese occupation was held on the 14th instant at No. 2, Canton Road. Mr. J. A. Ballard, representing the North British and Mercantile Insurance Company and the Commercial Union Assurance Company, Limited, occupied the chair; and Mr. W. D. Graham, manager of the New Zealand Insurance Company, was appointed Secretary to the meeting. The Chairman laid before the meeting some proposals for concerted action, and a lengthy discussion ensued in which, amongst others, the following gentlemen took part:—Mr. F. W. Such, of Messrs. W. Hewett & Co., representing the Northern Assurance Company; Mr. Schell, of Messrs. Kirchner & Böger, representing the General Assurance Company and the Hamburg Company of 1877; Mr. Tatlock, of Messrs. Gipperich & Burchardi, representing the Prussian National Insurance Company; Mr. W. T. Phipps, agent, Sun Insurance Office; and Mr. R. S. Furlonge, Inspector of the Imperial Fire Insurance Company. The proposals laid before the meeting were at length, with some minor modifications, unanimously adopted, pending confirmation by the offices at home; and the new agreement came into force on Monday.

The annual meeting of the Shanghai Ladies' Benevolent Society, which is now fifteen years old, is to be held in the Library of the Royal Asiatic Society this day (Tuesday) week at 2.30 p.m., when the Report is to be presented and a Committee for the present year is to be elected. It is hoped that all ladies who are actually or potentially subscribers to the Society will attend.

We are asked to insert the following paragraph:—

We are requested to call attention to a petition to the Commissioners of the Columbian Expedition to be held in Chicago in 1893, urging that the gates of the "World's Fair" be closed on Sundays. Efforts are being made by Christians all over the world to secure this end and it is hoped Shanghai will not be behind.

Petitions awaiting signatures may be found at Messrs. Mactavish and Lehmann's, No. 1 Bund, and Medical Hall, Hongkew, Mission Press, Peking Road, The Deanery, Mrs. Hunter's, Ma-ka-le Terrace, and the Rev. J. M. W. Farnham's, 36 Broadway.

We have received from Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Ltd., a copy of "*I Swear; The Story of a California Girl in Boston*," by Frank H. Powers, of California, and hope to notice it shortly.

From Mr. W. T. Phipps, agent and secretary to the Shanghai Board of the Standard Life Assurance Co., we have received a most useful scribbling diary for 1892 issued by that company, interleaved with blotting paper, and with a map of China and Japan on the back cover. It is well-known that the Standard, now of over 65 years' standing, is "one of the wealthiest and most progressive of the Provident Institutions of the United Kingdom."

The pocket diaries issued by the China Branch of the Standard Life Assurance Co. are unusually convenient, for they are not only bound in leather, but they are provided with a pencil, and give plenty of space for memoranda and notes.

Mr. J. A. Ballard, the Shanghai agent, has sent us a hanging calendar and a very convenient desk calendar for 1892, issued by the North British and Mercantile Insurance Company; and a handsome hanging calendar, issued by the Commercial Union Assurance Co., Ltd.

Messrs. Dodwell, Carill and Co. have ceased to be the local agents of the Canadian Pacific line of steamers, and Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co. have taken charge of the company's interests at this port on Friday last.

We received some years ago a very valuable technical volume, called *Modern American Methods of Copper Smelting*, written by E. D. Peters, M.E., M.D., and published by the Scientific Publishing Co., of New York. We have now to thank the same publishers for a copy of the second edition of Dr. Peters' work, revised and enlarged and profusely illustrated. To all our readers who are interested in copper smelting we can recommend this book as almost invaluable. The copper mines on the North American continent are among the largest and most productive in the world, and the practical nature of the American intellect makes it certain that the best and most remunerative processes will be employed by American copper producers. A book therefore which, as this does, gives a thorough practical account of the methods employed in America in the metallurgy of copper, fully illustrated with drawings of the plant necessary for the whole process of smelting, and at the same time devoid of the ordinary text-book objections, must have a special value. We notice that it is as warmly commended by the European technical journals, as by those of America. It has a full table of contents as well as an exhaustive index, and is handsomely printed and bound. In their letter accompanying the book the publishers, whose address is 27, Park Place, New York, mention that those desiring to investigate any scientific or technical subject can learn which are the best books and sources of information on the same by writing to them.

January brings round the annual volume, issued by the *Daily Press* Office, Hongkong, *The Chronicle and Directory for China, Corea, Japan, the Philippines, Indo-China, Straits Settlements, Siam, Borneo, Malay States, &c.*, which is now in its thirtieth year. The Index and the bulk of the volume alike continue to expand, every year finding everything of value in the book that was there before, and something new. It will show how comprehensive it is, to say that the miscellaneous portion occupies xxxvi and 350 pages, and the Directory proper 748 pages. With all this it is handy for reference, and as accurate as possible; and the numerous maps and plans it contains enhance its undoubted value.

We have to thank the Statistical Department of the Customs for a copy of the twentieth issue of the *List of the Chinese Lighthouses, Light-vessels, Buoys, and Beacons for 1892*, with the usual details and charts. It is obviously an invaluable book for all who trade on the Coast of China or on the Yangtze River.

H.M.S. *Swift* and the German gunboat *Wolf* are at Hankow; the *Peacock* and

Inconstant at Wuhu, as well as the Chinese transport *Leepien*. The *Redpole* is at Chinkiang, and the *Aspic* on her way up river. The watermark at Hankow on Thursday was 4 ft. 10 inches, at Kiukiang 7 feet, Hunter Island 12 ft., Olyphant Island 11 ft., Dove Point Cut-off 14 ft. There were three lorchas on shore at Olyphant Island when the *Tatung* passed down.

The French gunboat *Aspic* left Shanghai on Saturday for Wuhu, and the French gunboat *Lion* is expected here shortly from Hongkong.

The *Wosang*, the new steamer for the Indo-China Co., arrived here on Saturday. She is a sister ship to the *Esang*, a description of which appeared in these columns some time ago.

The *Torrington*, which left Saigon on 30th December, has arrived at Hongkong after calling at Tourane for coal, and left for Shanghai.

The *Bayern*, with the German mail of 22nd December, left Singapore for Hongkong and Shanghai on Sunday.

The *Nanaimo* left Pagoda Anchorage on the 12th for Shanghai and was followed by the *Rewa* on the 15th. The *Cardiganshire* was at Sharp Peak on the 15th.

Messrs. S. C. Farnham and Co.'s tender to raise the *Marie*, which sank near Chefoo on New Year's Eve, has been accepted.

The value of the missing steamer *Somdetch Phra Nang* and her cargo is estimated by the insurance companies at Tls. 250,000.

The *Alwine Seyd*, with pumps and gear, left here on Wednesday night for the wreck of the *Marie*. Messrs. Fyfe and Reeves go in her on behalf of Messrs. S. C. Farnham & Co.

There was a report at Foochow on Thursday (14th) that the *Cardiganshire* had been on fire, but when the *Haeslin* passed her at Sharp Peak on Friday, she did not require any assistance, the fire having been extinguished.

The wreck of the *Tungshan* was sold by auction to a Chinese syndicate at Swatow for \$4,000.

The *Empress of India*, with the Canadian Pacific mail, left Vancouver on 13th inst., and may be expected to arrive here on 3rd inst.

The *Khedive*, with the English mail and 578 chests of opium, left Hongkong at 6.30 a.m. yesterday for Shanghai.

The *City of Rio de Janeiro*, with Shanghai dates to 18th December, arrived at San Francisco on 20th inst.

The *Meifoo* returned to Shanghai on Wednesday, but there is no further news by her relative to the loss of the *Namchow*. It is stated, however, that the steamer seen by some of the survivors could not have been the *Meifoo*.

The U.S.S. *Monocacy* left the anchorage yesterday afternoon. She was to stay at Wousung till this morning and then proceed to Chinkiang.

The Portuguese gunboat *Bengo*, J. J. Moreira de Sá, commander, is expected at Macao at the end of this month from Lisbon, and is to remain on the Macao station.

Two lorchas are reported ashore on the upper end of N.E. Crossing, Olyphant Island channel being between them and the bank. There is 18 feet of water in this channel. At the upper end of Olyphant Island there is 11 feet 6 inches of water and at the lower end only 10 feet 6 inches.

Oscar Olsen, a quartermaster on board the *Glenavon*, is now locked up on a charge of dangerously wounding several Chinamen at the Associated Wharves on Saturday. It appears he had some dispute with a jinricksha coolie and then promiscuously assaulted the natives who were standing by. He seriously damaged the eye of one of the Wharf tallymen, and split another man's lip, using a rough piece of stone in his assault on the tallyman. Others were also injured. He then went on board his vessel, but eventually made his way to the

Hongkew Police Station and was locked up.

The C. N. Co.'s steamer *Pekin* having been thoroughly overhauled and strengthened, has been placed on the Shanghai-Ningpo run. Some alterations have been made in the engine department and she has been supplied with 160 electric lights. It is worthy of note that there were three local steamers alongside the French concession wharves yesterday that have been supplied with the electric light, namely the *Pekin*, *Ngankin* and *Kiangteen*.

The *Chingtu*, Captain Hunt, left Melbourne on 17th December and arrived at Sydney two days later. Sailed again on 24th for Townsville where she arrived on 29th. Left again same day and was at Cooktown on the next day, and Thursday Island on 1st inst. Sailed thence on 2nd for Hongkong where she arrived on 12th. Left on 14th and reached Shanghai on 18th. She experienced light variable winds and fine weather to Cobra Island, then strong N.E. monsoon and high sea to Hongkong, followed by strong N.E. monsoon and head sea to Shanghai.

On the morning of the 12th instant Messrs. Flood and Dalrymple, in the pilot schooner *Daniel Webster*, succeeded in rescuing five Chinese from a Foochow pole junk which they sighted at daylight off the outer lightship. The junk had lost her anchors, rudder, and sails, and was half full of water. Having received the men they took the junk in tow and finally engaged a tug boat which towed the junk up the river to the Cotton Mill, where she was beached. All that had kept the junk afloat was her cargo of poles. On the night of the 11th, eight of the crew had taken the boat and deserted their shipmates, leaving them to provide for themselves as best they could. The pilot boat was four hours rescuing the junkmen, owing to the bad weather.

At Haiphong on the 27th ultimo, a Chinese seaman on the German steamer *Choecheoufoo*, who was reprimanded by the second officer, drew a knife and stabbed the officer twice, once in the chest and once in the thigh, and a quartermaster who attempted to take the knife from him received a cut on the hand. The seaman was overpowered and handed over to the police. The *Courrier d'Haiphong*, from which we take our information, does not mention whether the wounds inflicted on the second officer were serious or not.—*Daily Press*.

The *Overland Mail* says that the *Débats* professes to have learned from a sure source that the chiefs of the insurrectionary movement in China are in communication with influential families of Tongking, especially with the members of the former reigning family of Annam. Accounts from Tongking of late have not been reassuring as to the power of the authorities to maintain order and safety throughout their territory, and possibly they may find that the agitation in China will react somewhat strongly on the discontented elements which they have not as yet been able to suppress. If true, the news indicates how widespread is the movement among the Chinese population which has been stirred up by the secret societies, and increases the interest of the French Government in urging the Government at Peking to take more strenuous measures against the conspirators.

The *Daily Press* says that telegraphic news had been received at Canton from Tientsin to the effect that the Emperor and the Empress Dowager have each presented a tablet and a pair of antithetical couplets to H.E. Li Hung-chang to congratulate him on the approaching anniversary of his birthday. The inscriptions on the tablets and the pair of couplets praise the great statesman for the very great services he has always rendered to the Government.

We received on Sunday Hongkong papers to the 12th inst.—The *Orontes* had been disinfected and released from quarantine.—Woodyear's Circus was expected to arrive

in Hongkong from Manila to-day.—On the 9th instant Mrs. Keswick presented to the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders at the Murray Barracks the football medals given by the St. Andrew's Society, and the same society, through its President, Mr. J. J. Keswick, presented a gong to Colonel Chater for the use of the regiment.—In the cricket match on the 9th between the Hongkong C. C. and the Hongkong Hockey Club, the latter won on the first innings by 8 runs, the Hockey Club making 164 in their first innings and 52 for 6 wickets in their second, and the Cricket Club 156 in their first innings.—The rainfall in Hongkong in 1891 was 117.3 inches, the mean annual rainfall for 10 years being 85.52 inches.—The report of the Hongkong Benevolent Society for 1891 shows that the total receipts for the year were \$1,369.50, and the total expenditure \$1,490.69. The balance carried forward to 1892 was \$645.—It is stated that the British Consul at Canton has taken up the scandalous Fatshan affair vigorously.

The *Daily Press* of the 12th says:—The non-arrival of the Scottish Oriental Steamship Co.'s steamer *Somdetch Phra Nang*, which left Java about 26 days ago with a cargo of sugar for this port, and of course is now greatly overdue, is causing grave anxiety. She is believed to have passed safely through the Mindoro Straits and was, we understand, seen near there by the *Kong-beng*, but must either have broken down on the Luzon coast, gone ashore, or foundered. It is to be hoped that she may yet be heard of, but the chances grow fainter daily, and it is to be feared that she will not be seen again. Her crew may, however, have escaped in the boats and reached the Luzon coast. The *Somdetch* is almost a new steamer, a fine boat of 1,057 tons, and was commanded by Captain R. Jones, who is well known on the coast. Mrs. Jones was, we believe, on board with her husband.

From papers received by the *Saghalien*, we note that the *Belgie* arrived in Hongkong on the 14th, while her mails were only received in Shanghai on the 19th, and would actually have arrived sooner had they come round by Hongkong.—It is feared that the yacht *Ariel*, which was on her way to Pak-hoi for the Commissioner of Customs there, has been lost with all hands.—The agent of the Scottish Oriental Co. having asked Admiral Richards to send a man-of-war to look for the *Somdetch Phra Nang*, the Admiral's Secretary replied that the Admiral was "of opinion the search requested is more properly one to be instituted by vessels of the Scottish Oriental Company engaged in the Java trade on the same track." The Hongkong papers are naturally astounded at such a reply having been sent.—A serious fire occurred in Bonham Strad on the 13th; the premises were insured in the Northern Assurance Co., and a German office.—The *Pingsuey* made a 'record' run of 4 days and 10 hours from Hongkong to Singapore.—A Straits team will almost certainly meet the Shanghai cricket team at Hongkong.—The Hongkong Chamber of Commerce has again written to Lord Salisbury, complaining of the apathy of the British Minister at Peking.—The A. & S. Highlanders are to leave Hongkong by the *Orontes* on the 26th.—The accounts of the Kowloon Land and Building Co., Ltd., for 1891 show a net credit balance to new Profit and Loss account of \$257.16.

From Hongkong papers received on Tuesday—earlier than those brought by the *Saghalien*—we learn that the steamer *Pionpoutis* had arrived from Java, having made the passage in ten days, and having seen nothing of the *Somdetch Phra Nang*.

All official and public functions of all kinds in Hongkong, including the performance of the Pantomime, the Scotch Concert, Lady Robinson's reception, the Prize Distribution at Victoria College, the Tarantula Society's Dance, etc., etc., were postponed when the news was received of the death of the Duke of Clarence.

The following is the text of the correspondence between the Hongkong Agent of the Scottish Oriental S. S. Co., Ltd., and the Secretary to Vice-Admiral Richards, alluded to yesterday morning:—

SCOTTISH ORIENTAL S. S. CO., LTD.,
48, Queen's Road,
Hongkong, Jan 11th, 1892.

Commodore Church, R.N.,
H.M.S. *Victor Emanuel*.

SIR,—The Scottish Oriental Co.'s steamer *Somdetch Phra Nang* left Java for Hongkong on 15th ultimo, was sighted by the *Hangchow* a few miles north of Cobra Island on 22nd Dec., and has not since been heard of. The *Hangchow*, bound on a similar voyage, experienced terrible weather and ran back to Manila, arriving here finally on the 2nd instant. The *Somdetch Phra Nang* may have been driven on to the Scarborough Shoal, or she may be anchored in one of the bays of the coast of Luzon for shelter, and be short of coal and food.

I have therefore to appeal to you to send a gun-vessel to see if the steamer or any trace of her can be found in the neighbourhood indicated.

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant,
GEO. T. HOPKINS,
Agent, Scottish Oriental S.S. Co., Ltd.,
Impérienne at Hongkong,
12th January, 1892.

Geo. T. Hopkins, Esq.,

Scottish Oriental S.S. Co.

SIR,—I am directed by the Vice-Admiral Commander-in-Chief to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 11th instant addressed to Commodore Church, asking that a vessel may be despatched to the coast of Luzon to search for your overdue vessel *Somdetch Phra Nang*, and to acquaint you that he is of opinion the search requested is more properly one to be instituted by vessels of the Scottish Oriental Company engaged in the Java trade on the same track.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
JOHN CARLISLE,
Secretary.

The *Yokohama Maru* arrived here on Tuesday with dates from Yokohama to the 13th, Kobe the 14th, and Nagasaki the 13th instant.—The American Baptist Missionary Union have commenced work with two Japanese evangelists in the Lo-choo Islands.

—The *Japan Mail* now explains that there was no alteration made this year in the reception of the *Corps Diplomatique* at the New Year's Levée at the Imperial Palace.—Although the proper time has elapsed, no news has yet been received of the nomination of a U.S. Minister to Tokio.—There was a great fire at Shizuoka on the 9th, destroying fully 600 houses.—The first snow of the season fell at Yokohama on the 12th.—A Children's Fancy Dress Ball was given at the Public Hall, Yokohama, on the 6th, which was largely attended and proved very successful.—Since the earthquake at Nagoya on the 3rd, the upper portion of the castle there leans slightly towards the north.—The extraordinary election of members of the House of Representatives is to take place on the 15th of February.—The accounts of the Grand Hotel, Ltd., for the past half-year show a net profit of \$15,220.35, and the directors propose to pay a dividend at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum.—Vries Island is smoking again copiously.—Professor Chamberlain is about to leave Japan for a year's vacation.—Mr. A. B. Anderson is to have charge of the Hongkong Bank's branch at Nagasaki.—A most serious fire took place at Nishinocho, Mikage, on the 12th.—The cause of Mr. J. M. Stoddart's death was influenza, which it is said he contracted in Shanghai.—The *Anshin Maru* arrived at Nagasaki on the 11th, and proceeded the same day to Kobe, via the Inland Sea.

According to the report of the Osaka Fu, 21 companies with an aggregate capital

of yen 544,750, were established in 1891 in the jurisdiction. The number of companies which were dissolved in the year was 28 with an aggregate capital of yen 860,850.—The amount of the capitals increased by some of the companies during the year was yen 563,400, and that decreased yen 1,046,600. The reduced capital and capitals of the dissolved companies amount to yen 1,907,550, while the capitals of the newly established companies and those increased amount to yen 1,108,050, showing a decrease of yen 799,400. This is a good indication of the incompetency of the Japanese to manage public companies. Perhaps experience will teach ability, but the experience will be dearly purchased.—*Hiogo News*.

The *Japan Mail* gives the following summary of trade in Yokohama for the week ending the 9th instant:—Trade has been neglected as usual during the holidays, though business has not been entirely suspended. It is now stated that some very heavy transactions, not previously reported, were put through during the last few days of the old year, and that at present offers for woollens on a large scale are in the market, but the terms held out being low there is no likelihood of their immediate acceptance, and the weak state of the home market will operate as a check upon contemplated bargains in yarns and cottons, at all events for the time being. There is not yet much doing in metals, though bars and sheets are improving, but these appear to be about the only articles that are looking up. Some large sales of kerosene had been effected, but holders complain of the low figures. The trade is healthy, however, and prices firm though no quotable alteration can be made in rates. As is often the case, pending the arrival of new crop sugar, the market is exceedingly dull, but as arrivals must now come soon there will no doubt be a movement directly. The silk trade has been quite as active as is usual in this broken week, notwithstanding the depletion the stock has suffered in the matter of good quality. There is no change in values, but holders press medium and common parcels which receive little attention from buyers, at least at the figures asked. There has not been much done in waste silk, but active enquiries yesterday denoted some rather extensive business pending. The tea trade may be said to have practically closed, the last steamer's cargo bringing the total shipments from the 23rd April last year to 48,897,985 pounds, against 45,943,440 in 1890, and 39,436,699 in 1889. Exchange has fluctuated very little, and closes with a slight decline on last week's rates, and weak.

In terms of the resolutions recently passed the China Mutual Steam Navigation Company (Limited) has been registered by Messrs. Harwood and Stephenson, 31, Lombard-street, E.C., with a capital of £400,000 in £10 shares (20,000 preference and 20,000 ordinary). The object is to take over as a going concern the business now carried on by the China Shippers' Mutual Steam Navigation Company (Ltd.), and all the assets and liabilities of that company, and further, to carry on business as shipowners, shipbrokers, marine insurance agents, company promotion, and the general business of a loan company. The first subscribers are:—

D. Reid, 3, Billiter-avenue, E.C.; J. A. Maitland, 46, Old Broad-street, E.C.; W. M. Strachan, 18, Leadenhall-street, E.C.; H. D. Stewart, 30, Wormwood-street, E.C.; D. McLean, 31, Lombard-street, E.C.; J. Potter, 112, Fenchurch-street, E.C.; W. Harwood, 31, Lombard-street, E.C., each of whom takes one share. There shall not be less than three nor more than twelve directors. The first are D. Reid, J. A. Maitland, D. McLean, J. Potter, H. H. Stewart, and W. M. Strachan. Qualification, £1,000. Remuneration, £4,000 divisible.—*London and China Express*.

The *London and China Express* of 11th ult. says:—In the Tea market a slightly better feeling is displayed, but unfortunately it does not extend to China, and the figures last month of the small deliveries are disappointing, especially so in face of the efforts being attempted to bring China tea to the fore. The losses on "First Crop" will, we fear, be long remembered. Indian and Ceylon tea move slightly upward, but prices all round are in marked contrast to those ruling during the early months of the year, inflated by speculation on the score of deficient supplies. It looks like moderate imports from India the next few months, but from Ceylon planters seem determined to pile it on.

We have had a quiet week in Silk, the little that has been done being at a slight advance, new Gold Kilings having realised 10s. 6d. The daily reports from the Lyons Condition Houses mark very large business. Deliveries from 1st to 10th inst. are:—China 315 bales, Japan 15, Canton 63, Tussah 2; total 395 bales.

We noticed some months ago the *Cyclopedia of the Manufactures and Products of the United States*, published by the Seeger and Guernsey Co., of New York. We have now received another copy from Messrs. Wm. Hoffmann & Co., the agents at Shanghai of the publishers, but we cannot find that it differs materially from the copy previously noticed. It contains a detailed list of the manufacturers in the United States of everything that is manufactured, and the Index to Articles alone occupies 174 large double-columned pages, the articles ranging from Abdominal Belts to Zylonite Toilet Articles. The manufacturers' names and addresses, only one line to each, occupy 855 pages; and then comes the most interesting part of the book, 251 pages of well-illustrated advertisements. Lists of the leading trade journals, and of a few scientific and technical books complete the volume. It is very handsomely printed and bound.

The *Straits Times* satirically observes:—Raubs are firmer. That is because the mine is partly under water and is threatened by civil rebellion; also because the new machinery cannot be sent past Singapore because of the risk of transit.

There was a glut of celebrities at Colombo for a short time during last month. Mr. Rudyard Kipling, the well-known Anglo-Indian author, arrived from Australia on 10th December, and left next day for Tuticorin. He lunched with Mr. Henry Norman. General Booth terminated his stay in Ceylon on 20th December, when he left for Tuticorin.

On good authority we hear (says the *Singapore Free Press* of the 6th inst.) that the Vice-Admiral of the China squadron, Sir F. Richards, will be down here next week, though what vessels will accompany the flagship is not yet known. The *Hyacinth* will shortly go up to Hongkong to replace her guns perhaps going north with the Admiral. But the alarmist views about Pahang may keep these movements in abeyance, as some preparations have been made in case vessels have to go to that State. In this connection we understand that H.E. Sir Charles Warren will not go to Penang as he had originally intended, but will remain in Singapore for the present.

In reference to the refusal of Admiral Richards to send a man-of-war to look after the missing English-owned steamer *Somdetch Phra Nang*, just after he had sent one to look after the Chinese-owned steamer *Namchow*, the *Daily Press* thinks that the Admiral must have been acting under the misapprehension that the owners of the *Somdetch* have a regular line of steamers trading between Hongkong and Java, which is not the case. It says:—"The Company would not have applied for assistance had they been in a position to make the search by one of their own fleet. Their steamers are em-

ployed on other lines, and as time is a matter of first importance when a marine disaster is feared the manager of the Company acted rightly in applying to those who are properly regarded as the protectors of the British mercantile marine. There were British lives at stake, and we feel that Admiral Richards is too true an Englishman to lightly leave his countrymen to their fate." It seems to us, however, that the Admiral should have ascertained this before he instructed his secretary to send such an extraordinary reply to a perfectly proper request. Meantime, we hope that the *Daily Press* is right in believing that as soon as the Admiral was made acquainted with the facts he would "despatch one of the fastest cruisers with instructions to search the bays along the Luzon coast, the Scarborough Shoal, and any of the neighbouring islands where there is any likelihood of the crew having been landed from the boats."

We understand that in declining to send a man-of-war to look for the missing steamer *Somdetch Phra Nang*, Admiral Richards was only obeying the regulations promulgated not long since by the present Board of Admiralty at home. The instructions now are that a man-of-war is not to be sent under these circumstances if the owners of the missing vessel have other steamers that they could send themselves, unless a sufficient guarantee is given that the whole expense will be repaid by those who ask for assistance. The intention apparently is that the expense which ought to be borne by the owners of the vessel in distress shall not be shifted on to the shoulders of the British taxpayers.

The U.S. Naval Department has definitely condemned the dynamite gun cruiser *Vesuvius*. Ambrose Bierce writes of her in the *San Francisco Examiner*:—"It is now definitely settled that the vessel *Vesuvius*, with her pneumatic-tubes for throwing dynamite shells, is a failure, and she is to be altered to a torpedo cruiser. While she was building, I enumerated in these columns a half-dozen reasons why she would be worthless. I explained the matter in detail, wasting a column or so of this paper's valuable space pointing out the absurdity of such a vessel for such an armament or rather the absurdity of such an armament for any vessel—the combination of a high trajectory and unstable base. When shown my article the Secretary of the Navy was pleased to give his nose an elevation several degrees greater than that of Captain Zalinsky's wind artillery. That sneer has cost the country a pretty pot of money—and we haven't the sneer!"

A somewhat tardy report has just been received at Colombo from M. Rogivue, the emissary in Russia of the Ceylon tea-planters, as to the progress of Ceylon tea in Russia. Up to date M. Rogivue has imported 42,000 lbs. of tea into the land of the Czar and he declares that with more pecuniary assistance he can do still more. Of the 42,000 lbs. he has imported, 34,000 lbs. have been already sold, with an increase of about 3,400 lbs. per month for the last six months, from 1st of May to 31st October. It is his firm belief, that out of the about 70 million lbs. of tea yearly consumed in Russia one fourth could become Ceylon tea before five years have elapsed, if its import were properly pushed forward, the more so considering that Chinese qualities are visibly decreasing. The *Times of Ceylon*, from which we take the foregoing remarks, publishes the full text of the report, which seems to show that a substantial beginning, at least, has been made in the endeavour to oust China tea from its principal stronghold. It is somewhat curious, though, that the Ceylon agent's plan of campaign should be laid bare by the publication of his report in full. Witness the following paragraph:—"Advertisements in the Press have also been used by me on a moderate scale and proportioned to my means as the medium

of *réclame*; this is no doubt a very expensive item when done properly, but would be of great help for our success, and if I could, by some intelligent sacrifices, present generous entertainment, liberalities of champagne, and such like extravagances, and gain the hearts of the redaction of our best newspapers, and induce them to write now and then some favourable articles on Ceylon and its products—tea especially—we could undoubtedly carry the cause before long." No doubt the planters will see the advisability of making "intelligent sacrifices" to take the shape of "generous entertainment, liberalities of champagne and such like extravagances."

The *Bureau Veritas Monthly List*, published on the 1st December, of wrecks and casualties recorded in October last, announces that 100 sailing vessels were reported as totally lost; 57 by stranding, 4 by collision, 2 by fire; while 8 foundered, 21 were abandoned, 5 were condemned, and 3 were missing. No less than 494 sailing vessels were damaged; 91 by stranding, 87 by collision, 4 by fire, 100 by leaks, and 212 by stress of weather. The steamers totally lost were 16; 8 by stranding, 4 by collision, 2 by fire; while 2 foundered. The steamers damaged were 292; 67 by stranding, 66 by collision, 9 by fire, 5 by leaks, 81 by stress of weather; while 64 reported injury to their engines or boilers. Among the names of steamers on the list we notice the *Ingo*, Shanghai to Japan, put back with engines damaged; the *Nanshan*, grounded and damaged in port at Swatow; the *Palamed*, Hongkong to Shanghai, arrived damaged by stress of weather; the *Preussen*, Bremen to China, put back with engines damaged; the *Salazie*, Marseilles to China, detained at Port Said with engines out of order; the *Shanghai*, London to Shanghai, damaged by collision on arrival; the *Shasi*, damaged by collision in Holyhead Bay; the *Platinair*, collided in port at Shanghai and damaged her propeller; and the *Wuchang*, Newchwang to Shanghai, arrived badly damaged by stress of weather.

In his report to Congress for 1891 the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture makes the following amusing reference to "rainfall experiments." After stating that \$9,000 have been used up in ascertaining the feasibility of producing rain by means of explosions, he concludes, "Due preparation having been made, the experiments were conducted on an extensive scale during the past season in Texas. I have every reason to believe that, so far as the production of explosions is concerned, these experiments were eminently successful. As regards the object thereof, namely, the production of rain, I have no data yet at hand which would justify me in expressing any conclusions on the subject."

From a review of the reports of a number of cotton-manufacturing corporations, the *New York Commercial and Financial Chronicle* comes to the conclusion that to this branch of American industry the present year has been an unsatisfactory one. As regards 33 of the chief corporations, the results for 1891 compare with those for previous years thus:—

	Capital. £	—Dividends.—	
		Amount. £	Per Cent.
1891.....	3,733,600	179,670	4.81
1890.....	3,733,600	284,170	7.62
1889.....	3,711,600	270,140	9.97
1888.....	3,321,600	339,210	9.63
1887.....	3,409,000	284,600	8.30
1886.....	3,223,000	209,510	6.50

Of the 33 companies only two have paid larger dividends than in 1890, four have paid the same as last year, while the remainder have paid either smaller dividends or no dividend at all. But while the results for this year have been unsatisfactory, it is stated that "late reports indicate that the mills are generally running full time, and that manufacturers believe the outlook to be brighter."—*Economist*.

Miscellaneous Articles.

THE DEATH OF THE DUKE OF CLARENCE.

16th Jan.

THE melancholy news that we published on Friday last, that private advices took a pessimist view of the chance of recovery of the Duke of Clarence, was followed later in the day by the news, first received by the British Senior Naval Officer, of the young Prince's death. H.R.H. Prince Albert Victor Christian Edward, K.G., K.P., LL.D., the eldest son of T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales, was born on the 8th of January, 1864. At the age of 13 he entered the navy as a cadet, and passed the usual two years on board the *Britannia*. In 1879 he visited the West Indies in H.M.S. *Bacchante*, and when, in 1880, that vessel was attached to the Flying Squadron, he, with his brother Prince George, went in her to see the world, Shanghai being included in the tour. After his return to England he studied at Cambridge and Heidelberg, and was subsequently sent to Aldershot to learn soldiering. He took his seat in the House of Lords in June, 1890, after paying a visit to India. His constitution was never a strong one, and his health constantly caused great anxiety to his parents. His illness was very rapid, as it was only on Wednesday that we first heard of it, and on Thursday it was announced that he was progressing favourably. Some three years ago there was much talk in society at home of his attachment to the Princess Victoria of Teck. The match was discountenanced at the time by the Queen and the Prince of Wales, but a formal engagement was entered into at the end of last year, and the wedding was fixed for the 27th of February next. The almost sudden death of her intended husband must be a terrible shock to the young Princess, as it will be to the Queen and the Prince and Princess of Wales. The flags at the Consulates here, and at the German Club and on board the men-of-war and many of the merchant vessels in the harbour, irrespective of nationality, were put at half-mast as soon as the sad news was known, and we are informed that at the Cathedral to-morrow Mr. Crompton will play the Dead March in Saul in the morning, and Chopin's Funeral March in the evening.

H.R.H. Prince George Frederick Ernest Albert of Wales, R.N., will now become Prince of Wales when his father—*tardasit illa dies*—reaches the throne. He was born on the 3rd of June, 1865, and will probably now have to resign the naval career on which he had entered so auspiciously.

THE LOSS OF THE NAMCHOW.

16th Jan.

THERE seems to be little doubt that the steamer which Captain Lunt and the officers of the China Merchants' steamer *Meifoo* saw flying signals of distress on the morning of Friday, the 8th instant, off Cupchi, some twelve miles south of Breaker Point, was the *Namchow*. She disappeared before the *Meifoo* could get up to her, the sea being very heavy and there being a haze on the water, as well as the glare of the sun, but as the *Meifoo* approached, her officers "saw something black a little on the starboard bow, which was taken to be the steamer going down." The *Meifoo* passed close to the spot where the steamer was supposed to have foundered, but could see nothing of her on the surface; but it is explained by the *Daily Press*, in the account that we publish in another column, that this "is not considered remarkable by seamen who know that part of the coast, as the sea must have been running like a millrace at the time, and the distance between the *Meifoo* and the foundering vessel was probably greater than supposed." There were not wanting suggestions that Captain Lunt was mistaken, and that he had only seen a mirage, but more facts have since been made known, which show that not only did the disaster occur that he reported, but that it was a very serious one. It is fortunate that there are some survivors, and that the *Namchow* has not to be added to the long list of vessels that have foundered in the China Sea with all hands, and left no details of their melancholy fate.

It is very easy, and unfortunately very common, to accuse our naval officers of inaction in cases like the present, and we accordingly find the *Hongkong Telegraph* sarcastically suggesting that it would "not be surprised if at least another forty-eight hours elapse before a gunboat went out in search of dying castaways," with an allusion to the "tennis, foot-ball, hockey, etc.," which "our jolly tars" are supposed to prefer to going out to look for survivors, wreckage, etc. The allusion was as mistimed as it was vulgar, for at the very time it was published the British Admiral was already in receipt of a telegram from Captain Burr of H.M.S. *Porpoise*, which was despatched from Hongkong, as soon as steam could be got up after the news of the disaster was communicated to the Admiral. The *Porpoise*, we gather, went into Cupchi, and learned there that twenty-nine survivors from a foundered steamer, who had saved themselves in the ship's boats and been subsequently taken on board junks, had landed there and were on their way overland to Swatow. As Cupchi is not more than fifty miles from Swatow, we should have details of the wreck in a day or two. Captain Burr learned, however, that the twenty-nine men who landed were survivors from a steamer that had four hundred Chinese on board

and six Europeans, and this agrees exactly with the theory that it was the *Namchow*.

The *Namchow* has had a very chequered existence. She began life in 1870 as the *Vixen*, and traded to the East soon after the Suez Canal was opened, being one of the handsomest of the fleet of steamers that were built about that time and known as "Caval-wallahs." She was subsequently bought for a line of steamers intended to carry Chinese emigrants—coolie traffic, in fact—between Hongkong and South America, and was re-named the *Patchoy*. This enterprise having failed, she was bought by a Barcelona firm, Messrs. Sala and Vidal, and re-named the *Ana de Sala*, and ran between Mediterranean ports. Some five years ago she came into the possession of a Chinese firm at Penang, who renamed her *Namchow* and, according to the *Hongkong Telegraph*, she is insured in home offices for £12,000, and is heavily mortgaged to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. She left the Lyceum Pass on the morning of the 7th for Amoy with 491 Chinese passengers, and six Europeans on board, the Captain, John Lee, two deck officers and three engineers. It is possible, and we trust it will turn out so, that more than the twenty-nine Chinese who reached Cupchi have been saved. It has occurred before that the occupants of the first boat which reached land have announced themselves to be the sole survivors of a wreck, and other boats have turned up afterwards. On the other hand, it is quite possible that there was such a rush for the boats when they were lowered, that the others were capsized, and that the terrible loss of life which the figures indicate, has actually occurred.

This winter has been a bad one so far in the China Sea. Beginning with the loss of the *Ichang* at Ningpo in November, we have seen the *Loongwha* lost at Newchwang, the steamer *Marie* at Chefoo, the *Yunnan* and *Tongshan* near Swatow, and the *Namchow*, if it is the *Namchow*, off Cupchi. Meanwhile the *Somdetch Phra Nang*, a comparatively new steamer with a full cargo of sugar on board, was twenty-seven days out from Java on the 11th and had not arrived at Hongkong, and a steamer from home called the *Torrington* was thirteen days out from Saigon. But as she took a month to get from Singapore to Saigon, and had to put back there twice for coal, no very great anxiety was felt about her when the last steamer left. She is evidently not a clipper, for she left Middlesboro' on the 16th of October.

No doubt there will be an enquiry at Swatow into the loss of the *Namchow*, and it is to be hoped that the survivors will be able to give some account of the causes of the disaster. The passenger traffic between the southern ports of China and the Straits is a very important trade, which must receive a shock when some 450 passengers are lost in one bottom. It would be well that an

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enquiry should demonstrate that the loss was not due to any defects in the vessel, or neglect on the part of her owners or crew.

TCHÊNG KI-TONG AS AN AUTHOR.

19th Jan.

THAT Tchéng Ki-tong has been unfortunate in money matters every one is aware. His enemies say that without authority he obtained a large sum of money from a bank in Paris in the name of his Legation. In a forthcoming book he will vindicate his integrity and it will be read by many persons with great interest. Of this matter, before the book appears, we have nothing more to say, but this we know, that his knowledge of the French language and literature is remarkably good and rendered him, as M. Henri Bryois has told us, a success in society in the French capital. He has written in French an extremely readable book on the comparative merits of the French and Chinese drama. Every one who acquaints himself with this work will feel satisfied that the author has read and thought extensively, has much ingenuity of thought and much fluency of expression. He appreciates European literature, different as it is from that of his own country, and writes about it as a man who has been familiar with it for long years.

As to his estimates of French authors they are open to some criticism perhaps. He is, naturally, a warm admirer, and this will of course make his opinions acceptable, but sometimes he does not praise enough. For instance, he says he does not know which to praise most in Molière, his courage in exposing the vices of a court or his genius in the brilliantly graphic pictures that he drew of contemporary manners in Paris in the time of Louis the Fourteenth. Yet there is no reasonable doubt that it was much more than courage which impelled Molière to write as he did. The temptation to expose the hypocrisies of high life was most powerful. He saw that when vice reigns there is nothing to fear in opposing it. The popularity secured by attacking vice is great. To a man like Molière the success of his representations was his reward. The temporary triumph of vice is an opportunity afforded to genius and it is thankfully accepted. The king was his friend. In the king's absence the regency forbade the representation of a play of Molière satirising the Jesuits. When the king came back, he was addressed by Molière and his company in a petition requesting the necessary permission. The king granted it at once, glad of the opportunity to please a Paris audience by allowing a satire on the Jesuits to be played. Where was the courage of Molière? It was genius, not courage, that aided him in his successful representations of contemporary manners.

The author is struck by the fact that comic art attains its highest expression

in the delineation of character. It concerns itself even with actions of no great importance so as to make the picture more complete. Hidden thoughts are revealed. Soliloquies intended to be quite secret are by help of the comic imagination communicated confidentially to a numerous public. Here he notices that the dramatic art attains its greatest elevation when it reveals all the baseness of a vice. If readers of any nation, he says, will read the character comedies of China they will be able to learn what progress China has made in the fine arts. In the Yuen dynasty plays, he states, that China for the first time advanced to the delineation of character. He instances the Miser, the Fanatic, the Prodigal, the Buddhist. He remarks that where we say miser, his countrymen say "slave of the riches he guards." Such an expression reveals the moral tone of the nation which invented the phrase. The term *l'avare* is inferior in neatness and force to the Chinese phrase. He is led into many discussions and finds faults in many ideas which he has met in European authors. For example in a chapter on confidence and suspicion, Tchéng Ki-tong says, that suspicion is originally nothing but attention. A suspicious mind, *esprit défiant*, is not incredulous. It is active, it examines, it considers. Suspicion is the personal characteristic of the human mind. If I had to define a man, I should say, he is an intelligence who suspects. Shakespeare places suspicion at the summit of the activity of the reason. Our Chinese author then quotes Hamlet's soliloquy beginning "To be, or not to be, that is the question." This consummation devoutly to be wished." "But that the dread of something after death—the undiscovered country from whose bourn no traveller returns—puzzles the will; and makes us rather bear those ills we have, than fly to others that we know not of." He adds, suspicion is the sentiment, *par excellence*, of the human mind, so that the religious faith that comes from Christianity is presented as a gift. Man is suspicious even in regard to God and his promises. He must have miracles and universal attestations of the divine omnipotence. He needs testimonies of an absolute certitude and he needs them by thousands before his intelligence will deign to reflect. The suspicious say sincerely that if they had faith they would wish that all men should have it too. It is this enthusiasm which gives to heroes in every cause their great strength, their mistrust has at last been conquered. They find themselves shone upon by a brilliant light and they spread round them the victorious brightness of their faith. Study the lives of great men: their distinctive mark is mistrust. Our Chinese author makes here a very doubtful statement which contradicts the general opinion that it is faith that gives strength to every hero and ensures his success. He proceeds to support his thesis that suspiciousness is

the source of human power by illustrations. Men use infinite precautions to avoid certain unpleasantnesses. They have invented the laws of politeness as a protection against the dangers of social life. There exists even an art of being impolite politely. It is the culmination of academic skill.

In discussing confidence, he says it has its origin in the indolence of the mind. The crime of Eve, condemned and faulty as she was, was to have had confidence in the words of the serpent. The temptation was very strong because no one had been deceived before her. The repute of the serpent for prudence was still intact. If she had only had a little suspicion the serpent would still be offering her the apple. Eve was then, as a confiding creature, excusable; but Adam: why did he not take note that the serpent had not first tempted him? The ancestor of mankind was imperfect. His innumerable descendants have all given proof of the fact.

He finishes the chapter with the following remarks. "The Gospel says 'Be harmless as doves' only after saying 'Exhibit the wisdom of the serpent.' To exhort men to have the wisdom of the serpent is a bold thing. I have observed that the Gospel only uses the word trust in relation to God. It is God alone who is able to draw to Himself all the hesitations of suspicion and to terminate all its doubts. God alone has enough imperial authority over the human heart to subdue it, to render Himself master of it, and to wring from this despot a cry of love and faith. To surrender one's self to another's will: is it possible when this will is not that of God, when this master is not perfection itself?"

That man will not resign himself to another, will not surrender his freedom and abandon that mysterious self where the hope of immortality resides, except to God his creator, is, according to our ingenious author, due to the implantation of suspicion in his soul. There is that in his book on the Theatre which draws out our sympathy with the author while we decline to be entangled in his paradox.

SIR T. SUTHERLAND'S SPEECH.

21st Jan.

THE tone of exultant, and sometimes egotistical, glorification in which Sir Thomas Sutherland, M.P., has been wont of late to address the shareholders of the Peninsular and Oriental S.N.Co., was absent from his speech at the fifty-first annual meeting of that Company, held in London on the 10th of December last. Not that the energetic Chairman had any specially bad news to give; a company that can still pay the full dividend on its preferred, and ten per cent. per annum on its deferred shares is in sufficiently good case, although that ten per cent. is three per cent. less than was paid in the previous year. Better still was the very satisfactory statement that the Chairman

made in the following sentence, and we doubt if there is another mail-packet company in the world that is so well situated:—"The value of the fleet in the books on September 30th last stood at the gross price of £11 10s. 1d. per ton, and if they deducted the reserve which they had in hand and which would be available in the event of the liquidation of the business, the value of the fleet would stand at £6 17s. per ton; which he imagined was almost an unexampled figure in connection with a fleet of the character and of the cost of (that of) the P. & O. Company." This writing-down, however, is not to be characterised as an excess of prudence when we remember that one of the fine steamers of the Inman Company, which cost her owners over £30 a ton less than twenty years ago, is now only worth, when those owners want to sell her, something under thirty shillings a ton; and the P. & O. Company still has a number of steamers in active use built about as long ago as that of the Inman Company just referred to.

After reading Sir Thomas Sutherland's speech we can only come to the conclusion that it must have left most of the shareholders in considerable uncertainty as to how much less their profits really were in 1891 than in 1890. First he told them that 1891 had been a very bad year for trade everywhere, the receding tide of speculation having left ugly wrecks upon every shore. This was metaphorical, and did not refer to the wrecks of the *Hongkong* and *Nepaul*, which had taken £70,000 out of the Company's profits, or at the rate of £10 a ton. On the whole, though, he thought the trade of the country had been of a tolerably satisfactory character. Then, lest we should be accused of making the Chairman's explanation of the Report seem more involved than it really was, we will quote his very words:—

"It would appear as if their figures were below those of last year to the extent of something like £150,000, £80,000 being due to diminution in freight receipts, and £70,000 due to the unfortunate loss of two vessels, but when they came to make the comparison closer they found that the difference between these two years was not £150,000 but £120,000, of which £70,000 was due to the loss of the ships to which he had referred. A total charge of £81,000 appeared, as they would see, to the debit of their insurance account for the whole year. If, instead of debiting this £81,000 to the year's profits, as they had done, they had been content to debit the amount which their insurance losses had cost them during the previous ten years—namely, £37,000—the net difference on the year's working as between 1890 and 1891 would have been simply a little over £80,000. He was perfectly sure, however, that under the circumstances which he had described the shareholders would fully endorse the policy of the board in debiting the

losses of the year not partly to the reserve, but wholly to the working account, and thus leaving the net difference between last year and the present year at the amount which he stated, viz., £120,000. With this difference of £120,000 to their disadvantage—a disadvantage which so far as their pockets were concerned was exactly £34,830—the directors came to the conclusion with great reluctance to withhold the three per cent. bonus which they paid last year upon the deferred stock."

As regards the Company's revenue in 1891, the shareholders were next informed that though there was a falling-off of £7,000 in the net income from passengers, the gross receipts were larger than in 1890 and more passengers were carried; nor was the competition of the Canadian Pacific line to be feared. Sir Thomas Sutherland knows that increased facilities mean increased travel, and he was undoubtedly right in his belief "that the existence of that (the Canadian) route would be the means in the long run of bringing more passenger traffic to this (the P. & O.) company from America than it would be the means of taking any passengers away from them." As regards the freight revenue the story was more discouraging. It fell off £80,000 in round figures, which was entirely due to the unprincipled competition of shipowners in the outward business, while the homeward business was not as good as it might be. "It might be asked," Sir Thomas said, "how had this excessive competition been brought about. The simple reply was this—there were more cats than mice." But the complaint that shipowners will build more steamers than are needed for the trade does not come particularly well from the Chairman of a company which has at the present moment some 35,200 tons of shipping under construction; and these vessels are not all for the company's proper mail and passenger traffic, but many of them are practically such "tramps" or "ocean vagabonds," as the steamers of which Sir Thomas spoke in such depreciatory terms. Finally, the Chairman was able to announce that the company's coal contracts for 1892 would save the shareholders £40,000, or more than the total cash loss in 1891; and he was able to add with justice that "in the sound financial position which the company had now attained they had the best guarantee that their efforts in the future would be as successful as they had been in the past." There is indeed no one in the Far East who is not interested in the continued success of the P. & O. Company, and who is not glad to recognise the high position it has attained under Sir Thomas Sutherland's management. The melancholy case of the late superintendent at Hongkong was alluded to by a shareholder, and the chairman was able to announce that the loss there would not exceed £20,000. The sentence on Mr. Woodin is a very severe one, when

we remember that six years' hard labour in Hongkong is equal to twelve years' at home, and that Dr. Clutterbuck for a series of graver and much more heartless frauds was only punished with four years' hard labour. Such is the inequality of British justice.

PRESIDENT HARRISON'S MESSAGE—I.

22nd Jan.

PRESIDENT HARRISON's annual message to the U.S. Congress occupies a whole page of small type in the *New York Herald* of the 10th of December last, and we can therefore only hope in our limits to give an outline of it. The writer begins by remarking that the State Department, Secretary Blaine's province, has had a very busy time during the past year, and the diplomatic results it has obtained have been "of a notable and highly beneficial character." The British government was persuaded to agree to the seals in Behring Sea being protected for a year, while negotiations, which have resulted successfully, for arbitration of the whole question were going on. "In view of the advanced position which this (the U.S.) government has taken upon the subject of international arbitration, this renewed expression of our adherence to this method for the settlement of disputes such as have arisen in the Behring Sea will, I doubt not, meet with the concurrence of Congress." It will be very interesting to learn who are to be the arbitrators. After a passing reference to the Canadian frontier, the admission of American pork into Europe, and the political troubles in Brazil, General Harrison touches on the New Orleans lynching, and suggests that if offences against the treaty rights of foreigners domiciled in the United States are not to be cognisable in the federal courts, it will follow that "the officers of the State charged with police and judicial powers in such cases must, in the consideration of international questions growing out of such incidents, be regarded in such sense as federal agents as to make this government answerable for their acts in cases where it would be answerable if the United States had used its constitutional power to define and punish crimes against treaty rights."

In his protracted remarks on the Chilean trouble, the President justifies the seizure of the *Itata*, and mentions that the federal government has appealed against the judgment of the District Court of California which released that vessel. The President is confident that the diplomatic and naval officers of the U.S. government acted throughout with the most complete impartiality, and he trusts that the government of Chile will make proper amends (as we know since that it was done) for the *Baltimore* outrage. "If these just expectations," he says, "should be disappointed or further needless delay intervene, I will, by a special message, bring the matter again

to the attention of Congress for such action as may be necessary." There is no question that the United States as a nation have had to suffer because Mr. Blaine had to pay for the Irish vote with Mr. Pat. Egan's appointment to the Legation at Chile, and President Harrison is not strong enough to withdraw such an unsuitable representative without Mr. Blaine's concurrence. The Chinese question comes next, and here it is firmly laid down that the United States will protect their citizens peaceably sojourning in China, "but recent unofficial information indicates that what was at first regarded as an outbreak of mob violence against foreigners has assumed the larger form of an insurrection against public order." The next paragraph of the address, on the subject of the Chinese government's refusal to receive Mr. Blair at Peking is worth quoting in full:—

"The Chinese government has declined to receive Mr. Blair as the Minister of the United States on the ground that as a participant, while a Senator, in the enactment of the existing legislation against the introduction of Chinese labourers, he has become unfriendly and objectionable to China. I have felt constrained to point out to the Chinese government the untenableness of this position; which seems to rest as much on the unacceptability of our legislation as on that of the person chosen, and which, if admitted, would practically debar the selection of any representative so long as the existing laws remain in force."

The President mentions the difficulty in getting justice from Spain for American citizens in the Caroline Islands, and proposes that the U.S. government should warmly promote American participation in Spain's exposition at Madrid this year in honour of Columbus' discovery of America. He mentions with approval the surveys now proceeding for the Intercontinental Railway that is to run from north to south through the New World; the good intentions of Queen Liliuokalani of Honolulu; and the surveys for the proposed telegraphic cable between the Pacific Coast and Honolulu. The Arbitration Treaty proposed by the International American Conference has lapsed through the ratifications not having been exchanged in time, but several of the governments concerned hope that the scheme is not abandoned. The President then speaks with force and dignity of the harsh measures now being enforced against the Hebrews in Russia, and points out that the expulsion of the Jews is not a local question with which it is an impertinence for another nation to interfere, because "a decree to leave one country is, in the nature of things, an order to enter another—some other." The allusion is, however, lubricated with a little of the historic soft soap which the U.S. government always employs when it is dealing with Russia; for the President adds:—"This consideration, as well as the

suggestions of humanity, furnishes ample ground for this remonstrance which we have presented to Russia, while our historic friendship for that government cannot fail to give the assurance that our representations are those of a sincere well wisher."

General Harrison's administration having been only too ready to take up any job by which the surplus in the Treasury could be reduced, so that one argument against the high tariff might be avoided, it was only to be expected that the President would urge the claims of the Nicaragua Canal. He would not only guarantee the Canal Co.'s bonds, but would even make direct appropriations for "this great American project, so full of interest to the people of all our States, and so influential in its effects upon the prestige and prosperity of our common country."

Here we must pause this morning.

Reviews.

THE FRENCH MAIL PAPERS.

It is melancholy, in view of the sad news that has so lately reached us by telegraph, to read the congratulations on the engagement of the late Duke of Clarence with which the papers received by the *Saghalien* are filled. Almost universal pleasure is expressed that the Princess Victoria Mary—"the Lady May," as the *Saturday Review* says "our better-tasted ancestors would have called her before the trumpery habit of Princes and Princessing was brought in"—is such a thoroughly English girl. It is reserved for such papers as the *Star* to sneer at the German blood in her veins. The mother of the Lady May, the Princess Mary of Cambridge and her brother the Duke of Cambridge are both thoroughly English, and though the Duke of Teck is a German by birth, he has become an Englishman since his marriage, and his children have been brought up as thorough Englishmen. "An Englishman cannot do better," the *Saturday* goes on to say, "than marry an English girl, which the Princess Victoria Mary of Teck (newstyle) practically is, and besides, the Duke of Clarence had such extraordinary luck in going abroad for his mother that he could hardly expect a repetition of it in going abroad for his wife." The engagement was made public on the 7th of December, and the first leading article in the *Times* of that date begins as follows:—

The announcement, which we make this morning, of the engagement of His Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence and Avondale to be married to his cousin, the Princess Victoria Mary of Teck, will move, for many reasons, the sympathetic interest of the people of the United Kingdom. Nothing more closely touching the sentiment which binds together the British nation and the ruling dynasty has occurred since the marriage of the Prince of Wales himself, or perhaps, since his narrow escape from death just twenty years ago. Public sympathy has for some days back been fastened painfully upon the illness of Prince George of Wales, now happily passing into the stage of convalescence. It will to-day be concentrated, with more joyous omens, on the fortunes of his elder brother. There is no need to apologise for or explain away the popular interest in the personal and domestic concerns of the Royal Family. The Monarchical sentiment has become incorporated with English character and English life, and, in spite of the cold analysis of political philosophers, it is a potent element in our constitutional system. Nor is it only from the personal side that we have to look at the matter. The entrance of

the eldest son of the Prince of Wales into the married state is an event with an important bearing on the Monarchical system as established by law and upheld by opinion in this country. It provides, we may hope, for the continuance, in the direct line, of the heirs of the Crown under the Act of Settlement, and, we may add, it furnishes a practical guarantee for the fulfilment of that object, such as never has been forthcoming since that great statutory bulwark of our Monarchical constitution became law. Never since the Revolution has the eldest son of the Heir Apparent, in the lifetime of his father and of the reigning Sovereign, become a married man. The descent of the British Crown has been auspiciously brought to pass, during the past two centuries, in spite of frequent breaks in the direct line as well as of other causes of anxiety; but it is obvious that Monarchy works most smoothly when it descends according to the acknowledged canons of immediate inheritance. Hence the prospect of the maintenance of the male line is felt to be a subject for national congratulation; and, on public as well as personal grounds, the Duke of Clarence's marriage will be heartily welcomed throughout these islands.

The *Daily News* is equally delighted with the match. It says:—

The announcement which is made to-day will, we believe, be received with the warmest satisfaction by all Englishmen in all lands. The Duke of Clarence and Avondale, the eldest son of the Prince of Wales, and, after him, the heir to the Throne, is engaged to the Princess Victoria Mary, the daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Teck. The Princess is the eldest child of the Duke and Duchess, and their only daughter. Her mother is better known to all of us as the Princess Mary of Cambridge and she has always been one of the most popular members of the Royal House. In inheriting her mother's sweetness of disposition, and her power of pleasing, the youthful Princess is most suitably dowered for the great position in store for her. These gifts are particularly needful to one who will in time come to occupy the place which is now held by the Princess of Wales. The Duke of Clarence is to be congratulated on his good fortune. His engagement has received the heartiest approval both of his parents—who must on this occasion take precedence of everybody—and of the Queen. What the Queen especially has approved, in a matter of this delicate nature, will be sure to commend itself to her entire people. She has married all her children well, and the true womanly instinct that guided her in her own choice has never failed her on any subsequent occasion. . . . The Prince marries a countrywoman as well as a relative of his own, who has been known from childhood to the family and to the people among whom she is to live. The match will be all the more welcome because he has not had to go abroad to seek a bride. The Princess comes from Richmond to town—that will be the extent of her bridal journey; and she only takes a more prominent place in a family group which is familiar to the whole English people. The best wishes of all will be freely offered to her on this most interesting event.

We might fill this paper twice over with similar extracts, but we have only room for a few words from the *Standard*. "They (the happy couple) have been left to become acquainted with each other in the ordinary intercourse of society, unfettered, it would seem, by any of the formalities and restraints which usually dog the footsteps of all who are born in the purple. In fact, we have now before us a kind of Royal romance." There was no apprehension that that romance was so soon to become a tragedy. We cannot even understand in Shanghai the gloom which the destruction of all those hopes has thrown over England, the real sorrow in which the country is involved, and many of us smiled at the *Reuter's* telegram describing it which we published on Monday morning. There were many reasons why the British people should rejoice at the engagement of their future king, and one indication of the delight was the proposition (mentioned in one of the telegrams this morning,)

which was enthusiastically received, that the London guilds should build a mansion in London for the young couple. Half London at least, we may be sure, is in mourning to day. *Sunt lachrymæ rerum, et mentem mortalia tangunt.*

The risings in the North had again turned the attention of the British Press to China. The *Times*, which is better informed than some of its neighbours, writes on the news as under. It is right, we imagine, in ascribing the riots in Central China entirely to anti-foreign feeling, but there is good reason to believe that the risings in the North were not anti-foreign at all; and if they were not what we understand by anti-dynastic, though one party at least raised the standard of the Mings, they were certainly anti-governmental. The *Times* says:—

It is impossible not to see that these disturbances, whatever their origin may have been, are directed now against Europeans and the converts to the Christian religion. In the sporadic popular outbreaks which take place all over China, as in every other ill-governed Oriental country, native Christians or Europeans who happen to be in the neighbourhood are never selected as the special object of attack. These riots are always directed against the local officials; but in Mongolia, as along the banks of the Yangtze, Europeans and converts are the first, and usually have been the sole, victims. The secret societies which are mentioned with unvarying regularity in all the telegrams and statements from official Chinese sources are, like the Mongolian bandits, mere instruments. No Chinese secret society has sufficient political intelligence or even elementary geographical knowledge to conclude that if it attacks foreigners the Treaty Powers will in return attack the Chinese dynasty. It is impossible to perceive in any of the anti-foreign riots, from Wuhu in May last up to Mongolia in November, a trace of a revolution against the Manchu dynasty. None of the pamphlets and placards which have been issued in the disturbed districts express anything but reverence for and loyalty to the Emperor. M. Louvet, who is quoted by our Paris Correspondent on Saturday, tells us that there is no religious fanaticism in China, but the Mandarins see coming upon them European ideas and civilisation, and they have a profound dread of both. Their aim is to make China too hot for foreigners, to eradicate European ideas amongst their own people by exterminating the native Christians, to drive Europeans of all creeds and classes from the interior and, if possible, from the country. Their political intelligence is not sufficient to teach them that the place of every European they kill will be taken by another, or that the effect of their policy if pursued unchecked would be a war between China and the West, which would bring disaster and ruin on the former. Their instruments are, in one place, the mob pure and simple, in another, the secret societies, in a third, the brigands; but in every instance the aim is to eradicate European ideas and to terrorise Europeans and those who follow their teachings. A careful and dispassionate study of the events of the last eight months in China points to the conclusion that we are in the presence of a great outbreak of anti-foreign feeling fostered by the literary class, insufficiently and ineffectually resisted and punished by the Chinese authorities, and which threatens to involve once more the relations of China with all Western powers.

But the most amusing article on the Rising in the North is that in the *Daily Telegraph*, in a number which ought to have reached us by the English mail. It treats of the capture of Chaoyang and the massacre of all the Christians at Kinchow. "These are cities," it says, "belonging to the province of Hoo-pe, in that part of 'the Heart of China' which is traversed by the Yang-tse-kiang, little more than a hundred miles from Han-kow, to which last-named town, it will be remembered the fugitives from Wu-hu and Wu-wei betook themselves for refuge—among them English women and children—on escaping from the slaughter and incendiarism of the Hu-nan fanatics last summer. . . . The latest outbreak of savage fanaticism which has

stricken the Corps Diplomatique and European colony at Peking with consternation appears to have been localised at Taku, the port of Tientsin at the mouth of the Pei-ho river." We shudder when we read the detailed account which follows of the barbarities practised upon the children, the nuns attached to the mission, and the "good Belgian priests," and agree with the *Telegraph* that if these things could happen at Taku, "a place which has experienced the dread consequences of provoking the anger of the 'red-headed barbarians,'" it must soon be infinitely worse with the foreigners in Central China, where the population has "been sedulously kept in ignorance of the power wielded by the great nations of the West."

It is satisfactory to see that the papers generally recognise that the new commercial treaties made between the Central Powers of Europe amount to an admission that high protectionist methods have failed. The *Economist* says: "It is too early yet to form any definite opinion as to how British trade is likely to be affected. . . . That we shall derive some advantage is pretty certain. . . . All that can be affirmed with any certainty is, that, looking to the extent and diversity of our trade with them, any lowering by our continental customers of the Protectionist barriers within which they have sought to entrench themselves must in some measure operate to our advantage." The *Standard* says that "all this is a victory, if not for Free Trade, at least for the principle on which Free Trade is based." The *Daily News* says:—

The German Empire, the Austro-Hungarian Empire, the Kingdoms of Italy and Belgium, and the Swiss Republic will have lowered the commercial barriers which have kept them from one another's markets as a sort of compensation to themselves for the high duties with which France, Russia, and the United States endeavour to keep their home markets to themselves. It is, in fact, another blow in the war of tariffs; though it is also a step in the direction of Free Trade. The policy of isolation is breaking down; and half a dozen European nations are lowering the barriers that separate them in order to promote trade with one another. They have not done with the dividing walls, but they are shaking hands across them. This is, in itself and apart from all other considerations, a vast gain. It is a practical admission of the force of sound economic argument that countries which desire the benefits of a foreign trade have to set that trade free from the encumbrance of tariffs. As a Free Trade nation we can look on with unmixed satisfaction at this change in the Protectionist attitude of so many of the European Powers, which though it does not go far towards Free Trade looks steadily in that direction. As we ourselves have treaties with all these Powers which ensure for us the same treatment as "the most favoured nation," there is good reason to hope that our own commercial relations with them will be enlarged and improved.

France is the greatest sufferer, and by her own act, as many of the Paris papers admit. We take this extract from one of the London papers:—

The *Temps* argues that, as France is greatly dependent on her exports, the commercial treaty system ought never to have been called in question. Her bitterest enemies could not have acted worse for her than she herself is now doing. It is true that under the Treaty of Frankfurt she will enjoy the terms granted by Germany to Switzerland, Austria, Belgium, Holland, England, and Russia, but she will be excluded from the advantages granted to other countries, especially to Italy, Spain, and the United States. "The Protectionists," says the *Temps*, "may be proud, for, thanks to them, an iron ring threatens gradually to strangle us. Deprived of outlets, we are going straight to an industrial Sedan." The new *minimum* tariff being considerably higher than the existing one, there is little chance of other countries offering France reciprocity. Indeed, the offer of that tariff is a mockery. "You offer

us an empty glass to drink out of," France will be told. "Thank you for nothing."

Those who are anxious to realise what sort of a man the successor of Prince Bismarck is, should read the article in the *Economist* of 5th December on General von Caprivi.

There is not much foreign news in the papers, but we find the following as to the famine in Russia:—

In spite of the efforts to suppress the real condition of the famine-stricken districts, stories are filtering through to St. Petersburg, the correspondent of the *Standard* says, which show that the utmost vigilance of the authorities will be necessary in order to prevent grave disorders. In the Government of Samara the peasants are already organising pillaging bands, and any attempt to denounce them is met by anonymous letters threatening incendiarism and murder. In short, the small police force is totally inadequate to repress the villagers. In one hamlet, after the theft of a load of corn, the inhabitants *en masse* declared themselves to be guilty with a view to be arrested and fed. Such behaviour quite nonplusses measures of repression. Much the same state of things prevails in the Province of Viatka, where the peasantry either commit crime in order to get arrested, or else kill themselves and their children, generally by suffocation with charcoal.

The *St. James's Budget* has a scathing article, headed "Mud-Shovelling by Machinery," on the recent action brought by Lady Russell against her husband, and even hints that the lady ought to be indicted for perjury. The *Pall Mall* is full of pictures as usual, including a very pretty portrait of the new Princess Daisy of Fless. The *Saturday* has a good article among others on "China," in which it recommends that if united action is difficult, England should "go it alone," though it appears now that no action is to be taken. The *Spectator* has also an article, on "The News from China," in which it is bold enough to presume that "England, Germany, Russia, and France could with Indian and perhaps Japanese assistance defend the Manchu dynasty, at least so far as to prevent its being upset with a rush, and enable it to gather up some of the resources it must possess for a long civil war."

Outports.

CHEFOO.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The s.s. *Fuying* arrived here from Shanghai at 1 o'clock this afternoon, and left at 2.15 with the intention of reaching Taku if possible. Her success or non-success will, of course, be entirely dependent upon the weather, which, by the way, has been strangely fickle and inconsistent of late. Captain Chard, of the *Peiping*, made a gallant effort to get to Taku on the 7th; large quantities of ice were encountered for a distance of eight miles outside the bar, and though he succeeded in taking his little vessel as far as the "Deep Hole," he was unable to launch a boat, or hold any communication with the shore. After waiting thirty-six hours in the hope that the ice would break up or thaw, he was compelled to return to Chefoo without even landing the mails.

The wrecked German steamer *Marie* is in very much the same condition and position that she was a week ago, though, if anything, she has sunk a little deeper in the sand. There is very small chance of her being raised—allowing the task to be possible, which some are inclined to question—and it is very doubtful if it will pay those concerned to incur the expense necessary. The Captain is now in Shanghai, and is expected to arrive here shortly with pumps and other appliances.

Chefoo, just now, is very dull, and but few steamers are arriving. There is little

or no trade to entice them hither at this time of the year, when the tired native merchant lays aside his well-worn abacus and prepares to thoroughly enjoy the only holiday in the year that is sanctioned by his keen and constant application to business. Socially, matters are not much brighter, though it is rumoured that the members of the social club which has recently sprung into existence under the somewhat ambiguous title of "The Savage," are organising a performance which is to come off soon at their hall, which is now being fitted with a neat little stage whereon, no doubt, some histrionic geniuses in our midst who have hitherto carefully suppressed their talent, may speak a part and gain the plaudits of an admiring community.

13th January.

CHINKIANG.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

The installation of officers of the Doric Lodge, No. 1433, E.C., took place on the 11th instant, at the Masonic Hall, when Rt. Wor. Bro. Miller, D.G.M., assisted by Rt. Wor. Bro. Kingsmill, D.D.G.M., formally inducted Bro. C. P. Dawson, the newly elected Master, to the chair. The officers invested were:—

Wor. Bro. D. A. Emery.....I. P. M.
 " H. A. C. Emery.....S. W.
 " P. H. Martin.....J. W.
 " D. A. Emery.....Treasurer.
 Bro. A. J. Clark.....S. D.
 " C. H. Morris.....J. D.
 " E. F. M. sen.....I. G.

In the evening the brethren dined with the newly installed Master, in accordance with the usual custom.

13th January.

HANKOW.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The sixteenth annual meeting of the Central China Religions Tract Society was held in "The Rest" on the forenoon of the 8th inst. There was a large attendance of the missionaries resident in this locality. The report as read by Mr. McNair, Secretary, showed that the disturbed state of the Yangtze valley during the year had greatly interfered with the society's work; several of its members had suffered the loss of all things, and one, Mr. Argent, had been brutally murdered at Wusueh. In addition, the society had been straitened by the scarcity of funds, and crippled by the removal of two of its most indispensable officers. Under these circumstances it was not surprising that the circulation had fallen from 1,093,200 books and tracts in 1890, to 846,100 in 1891, a decrease of nearly a quarter of a million. One satisfactory result of this decrease, however, was the fact that financially the society was in a more healthy condition than it had been for several years. A chronic balance of over Tls. 500 to the bad had been changed into one of Tls. 177.42 to the good. The main source of income had been a grant of £400 from the R. T. S. of London, which realised Tls. 1,728.99. Tls. 562.55 had been received as subscriptions, and Tls. 1,318.37 from sales, altogether a total of Tls. 3,606.24. The chief expenditure was as usual in payments to printers, Tls. 2,852.80. A new departure had been taken by the society appointing a paid secretary. Hitherto the members of other missions had undertaken the society's business in addition to their own work, but this arrangement was no longer either fair or feasible, since the society's work had so grown as to demand the whole time of whoever had it in hand. In spite of the decrease in the circulation there was no note of despondency in the meeting, but the full hope that, granted peaceful times, with the financial advantage

gained, the increase of the future would more than make up for the past decrease.

The report having been read, the Rev. Griffith John, D.D., President, called for remarks from any of the members. Mr. Archibald said that while the report was highly satisfactory as regards the improved financial condition of the society, it must not be forgotten it had been brought about through less having been done during the past as compared with previous years. It was like a man who during the day had not been working as hard as usual, at the close of it congratulating himself because he was not so tired. If the society would take full advantage of its opportunities its income must be increased. He was sure there were many good people in the home lands who would gladly help did they know particulars. He had noticed a society had been formed to take charge of Chinese lepers, and another was proposed to help Chinese lunatics down in Canton; a proposal which had excited the opposition of some of the Canton residents, who begged to explain there were no lunatics there—the Chinese had more sense—and if there were any, their friends took better care of them than a rumour-creating institution could. Now he thought a society to reach Chinese readers was one which no one could object to. The experiences of the year had shown the immense power of the press in China when used by the enemy for evil; equally far-reaching and effectual results might follow the use of it by this society for good. He believed in the clearness of the Christian head to appreciate the importance of such an agency, and in the liberality of the Christian heart to aid it, but the problem was how were these heads and hearts to be reached.

The Rev. C. G. Sparham said he had been having an interview with two colporteurs just back from a long journey. One of them had been meeting with a great deal of opposition, till he came to a city where the Viceroy's recent proclamation was posted and the result was that the people there were quite friendly. Those proclamations undoubtedly had a tranquillising effect. The other was in a town where every one seemed hostile to him, but where a man sought him out, invited him to his house and treated him most kindly. This man had at one time obtained and read the tract "Gate of virtue and knowledge," and hence his friendliness. To show how the books are taken care of, the speaker mentioned the case of a man who at three different times attempted to burn a tract, but could not, his reverence for characters each time preventing him. It was beyond all dispute that these books were not only exercising a great influence, but were also being taken care of and would wield a still greater influence in coming days.

The Rev. W. T. A. Barber, M.A., was much impressed with the effect which the undertakings of H.E. the Viceroy of Hupeh and Hunan are having in bringing Christianity before the minds of the official and literary classes, as a subject worthy their attention and examination. It was no doubt true they had not the least wish to accept Christianity; all that the high folks wanted were the material benefits which western lands possessed. These they were keenly enquiring after. He had a science colporteur whom he superintended at Wuchang, and his yearly sales in the *kung kuans* amounted to \$250. They had no desire for spiritual things, but the advantage which they saw might be gained from a knowledge of scientific matters led them to enquire into the other also. He had met with a man from Hunan who had carefully read most of the Society's books, and in heart seemed convinced of the truth of Christianity. A military mandarin had recently asked him to obtain for him no fewer than 64 Christian books from Shanghai. This man had already examined the scriptures, and was familiar with them. Undoubtedly a great current was setting in

in favour of Christianity. A young man from Foochow had applied to enter his school; he was told that to do so he would have to learn Christian services, but his reply was that that was all right, half the folks believed in Christianity where he came from. He, Mr. Barber, never felt more hopeful of the future than he did now.

The Rev. A. Foster, B.A., said he was strongly of opinion that an organised effort should be made to send letters, at stated intervals, to the papers which circulate among the people whom it was desired to reach, and that the society's work should in this way be made known.

The Rev. Griffith John, D.D., was fully convinced of the great importance of keeping hammering away in the newspapers, if we wished the society's work to be known. That nothing seemed to come of it immediately was no reason for giving up. Just recently assistance had been sent from America, and from Australia, in consequence of letters written by him to England long ago. He saw no reason for discouragement on account of the reduced circulation. There was no doubt a considerable falling off compared with the two previous years, but really a great increase over the circulation of any of the previous years excepting these two. The chief factor in causing the decrease was no doubt the riots. These were the great events of the year, and he was thankful for the light which had broken in upon them at last; and that now we knew their history. Once it looked as if all Hunan was in arms against us, but it was only Changsha; and not all Changsha even, but only Chou Han and his following. In connection with the riots many things had come to light of a highly encouraging nature to those engaged in tract circulation. Missionary journeys had been taken into Hunan, and many Hunanese had heard the gospel in the Hankow and Wuchang chapels, and elsewhere. But still the main influence which had been brought to bear on that province was without doubt that of the press. It was impossible to study the Hunan publications without seeing that a good deal was known about Christianity there. The Bible was often referred to in them. Although generally the reference was to Gutzlaff's version, which was the Bible used by the Taipings, yet many tracts were mentioned also, and amongst these were the names of several of the society's books. The truths those Hunan publications combat are just those which the tracts emphasise. They object to its being taught that heaven and earth are not objects of worship, and that ancestors and heroes are not to be sacrificed to; that God is one, a person and a spiritual being. Particularly they return again and again to attack the name of Jesus, the name which is most frequently found in all the tracts; if the enemy had learned this much we may reasonably expect that friends would have learned more. The riots had also made us better acquainted with the state and nature of the opposition to Christianity than ever we were before. They had further called forth several proclamations of unspeakable value, and also that splendid edict, which plainly places Christianity among the tolerated religions of China. This was a step which could never be retraced, and its effect would be better felt hereafter than now. He believed that further good still was purchased for us by the sufferings of those who endured the riots. There was a time when he despaired of Hunan. He did not see how it ever could be opened in our day, but he believed the riots would bring it about. Missionaries would thus have access to a splendid province, and a many people. He believed Hunan would produce a better type of Christian than Hupeh. The people themselves said they were as iron compared with which the Hupeh men were like bean curd, and it was true. Even Chou Han had his good points, courage, determination, &c., and were he

only converted he might become the Chinese St. Paul. He daily prayed for his conversion.

The Rev. W. Owen thought the Society should still continue to give special care to the get-up of its books. He found when the appearance of a book became familiar the demand for it fell off.

The meeting throughout was enthusiastic and full of hope, and the members of the Society so far from being discouraged by the experiences of the past year seemed only strengthened thereby and more determined than ever to go on, keeping before them the reaping-time which shall be to those who faint not.

11th January.

About two o'clock this morning one of those frightful conflagrations, with which Hankow residents are but far too familiar, broke out close to the concession back road. It was not caused by a riot, but by some opium smoking gamblers upsetting a lamp in a mat hut. There was no wind at the time, but notwithstanding this the flames spread rapidly, and had obtained the mastery of a great area before anything could be done to check them. Included in this area, and occupying the space adjacent to the concession between the R.C. hospital and orphanage and the L.M.S. hospital, were four huge tea box factories cram full of boxes and boards, and supplemented with additional stacks of boards as big as churches. These soon caught. It was impossible for a stray spark from any quarter to alight amongst them without lighting them, and once ablaze the immense sheets of flame and intense heat they threw off placed the hospitals in extreme jeopardy. At one time it seemed as if the R.C. institution could not hope to escape, but the well directed and unwearied efforts of parties from the gunboats, and the concession fire engines, averted the danger. It is just five years ago since these same tea box factories placed these same institutions in similar danger by a similar fire. It would be well if their owners could only be persuaded to select a new site for rebuilding them, and all would wish them better luck. Each burn-out is said to cost them Tls. 70,000.

About 200 other houses have been burned, including the depôt of the National Bible Society of Scotland, whose stock of Chinese Scriptures has been entirely destroyed, involving a loss of Tls. 1,700. The depôt of the Central China Religious Tract Society in the next street shared the same fate; the loss of this Society being about Tls. 1,500. At their annual meeting above reported the members of the C.C.R.T.S. were congratulating themselves on the improved financial condition of their Society, but this untoward event will plunge it into greater straits than ever, unless friends be found to help. Neither of these depôts was covered by insurance. The Hankow Mission Press had a very narrow escape. Its doors and windows are burned out, and out-buildings completely destroyed. Several poles of the telegraph were burnt and the wires brought down, but new poles were in, and the wires up again, while the old ones were still burning. No lives were lost, but it is a sad sight to see the homeless folks camping out amongst the broken bricks and tiles which only yesterday protected them from the bitter cold of such a night as this. The tea boxes and boards are still burning.

12th January.

RUGBY FOOTBALL AT HANKOW.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

A very exciting game was played on the Race Course on Thursday afternoon last. Those who took part in it were officers and bluejackets of H.M.S. *Swift* and several gentlemen of Hankow. All hands were shoved into the one pot and sides

picked to the extent of 15 on each. Nearly the whole of the Hankow community turned up to witness the game, which proved to be a most enjoyable one.

The kick-off took place at 4.30, and from that to the finish the course fairly rang again with the peals of laughter from the on-lookers, and boisterous shouts of the excited players.

As the ball was passed from one to another it was like a perfect pantomime to see the struggles of those on the field in their frantic endeavours to gain possession. Some of the boys were turned into regular figures of eight.

It was quite a common thing to see 15 or 20 on the ground at the one time with the unfortunate individual who had seized the ball underneath.

Swallow tailed shirts and guernseys were in abundance.

But notwithstanding all these little mishaps the game was one continued smile.

Those who witnessed it cannot but admit that they had a very pleasant time, yea, quite as sweet a one as the players. Let us hope that the Hankow sports (a hint to Messrs. Price, Fitzgibbon and Gardiner will take a still further interest in the games of Rugby and Association by organising a team of their own so as to be enabled to play an occasional match with the boys of H.M.S. *Swift* during their sojourn in Hankow.

JAPAN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The principal event of the week has been the issuing of an Imperial Ordinance fixing the 15th of February as the day for the election of Representatives for the second Diet. I say second Diet although the journalists of the metropolitan papers, I notice, persist in regarding it as the third Diet. Doubtless the last session will ere long come to be spoken of as the second session of the first Diet. A confusion of terms is inevitable unless some definite understanding is arrived at. The date fixed for the elections is earlier than many expected, and although it corresponds with the anticipations published some days since, most recent views indicated the 25th proximo as the probable date. Perhaps this early date may serve to show that the government is not at all doubtful of the issue. It may also show that no time is to be given its opponents for 'stumping' the country. The day might, had the cabinet so wished, have been deferred by about a couple of months. Undoubtedly it is for the best that the earliest possible date has been chosen; the sooner the uncertainty in which the political outlook is involved is dispelled the better for the country at large, commercially and otherwise. All parties meantime are actively pursuing the various means adopted to carry the different constituencies, and it is impossible at present to make a reliable forecast of the result. A large meeting of the popular party in this *ken* was held on the 12th inst., but it was dispersed by the police after a few speeches had been delivered. Interference was not attempted, until an open avowal was indiscreetly made of desire to see the pro-Government party destroyed; but that the necessity of intervention was foreseen, if not desired, may be gathered from the fact that it was thought well to muster about a dozen guardians of the law upon the scene. Mr. Kashima, a lawyer by profession, and ex-Member of the Lower House, and Mr. Murano, Vice-President of the Sanyo Railway Company, are expected to be the candidates for Kobe *ken*; the former in the opposition interest, the latter in the government interest. I doubt very much if the supporters of the present government come off quite so well in the contest as some imagine and hope. Thus far nothing has been published in the vernacular journals so far as I have observed to convince one that the

supporters of the *Kaishinto* and *Jiyuto* members are wavering in their allegiance. And after all, it is with the *Kaishinto* and *Jiyuto* that the issue of the battle may be said to rest. There are other parties it is true, but neither numerically nor in the quality of their chiefs, can they be said to question the supremacy of the coalition that looks to Counts Itagaki and Okuma for guidance and inspiration. The latter by the way is credited by one of the Tokio journals, I forget the name at the moment, with a degree of indifference as to the number of dissolutions that may be necessary, and a degree of confidence as to the ultimate outcome that would take the breath from any such out-and-out Government admirer as our friend the *Japan Mail*. The fact is the opposition men know quite well that their countrymen generally are irreconcilably opposed to the Satsuma-Choshu domination, and knowing this, they are quite competent to make a fairly trustworthy estimate of the issue of any appeal to the electors. With the Constitution in their hands, and the order for the dissolution of the Diet before their eyes, they would be duller indeed than most of their countrymen if they failed to see their way to the enjoyment of government by party. Just two or three sentences ere I close this subject. Some all-seeing critic has seen fit to attack me in the columns of a local paper, challenging the accuracy of my wire to the effect that considerable excitement existed in the capital. I sent that despatch with translations before me, translations relative to the stir and bustle in the opposition political centres consequent upon the order for dissolution. If no excitement was expected, why pray did the authorities take prior care to have an extra body of police on hand in case of emergency? Even the *Choya Shimbun*, now a pro-Government organ as many hold, reported under date 29th ult., that the Metropolitan Police Board "wired at once to summon 2 policemen from every police office, assembling over fifty police to be prepared for any extraordinary event that might arise." And the same paper adds that the force was kept ready from the 25th to the 28th, when they were ordered to return to their respective offices, and the *Nippon*, admitted to be an independent journal, reported that gendarmes and police were detailed to guard official residences of Ministers of State and to watch at the gates of the offices of political parties. The same paper mentions that several anonymous letters had been sent the Ministers of State. Now all this I know only indirectly concerns your readers. It does however concern them to know that reasonable care is taken to ensure the accuracy of the information your correspondent sends from this country. All that the *Mail* sees transpiring here is not necessarily all that does transpire, and many a critic has the temerity to dogmatise as to what is and what is not happening here, who possesses no other means of gauging the truth than the feeble excerpts which are reproduced as notes from the vernacular press.

Yokohama has had a delightfully entertaining Juvenile Ball, for a full account of which I must beg those interested in such interesting and entertaining diversions to refer to the columns of the *Japan Herald* which published *in extenso* an account of the various fancy dresses in which the little ones made their appearance. It was a thoroughly enjoyable affair from all accounts, and I hear there is some talk of something similar being got up here.

Kobe, 14th January.

TO CURE SKIN DISEASES.—Sulpholine Loiton quickly drives away Eruptions, Pimples, Blisters, Redness, Eczema, Acne, Disfigurements, Roughness and Scurf, &c., leaving a clear, spotless Skin and beautiful Complexion. Sulpholine is a necessity for the Skin, especially in hot climates. Made in London. Sold everywhere. (2)

NEWCHWANG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

You may like to know that we are still alive, and that we fully anticipate having a good dance at the New Year's Eve Ball, to be held as usual. The children meanwhile have had a real good time. On the 23rd they were entertained right royally, a Xmas tree being furnished with the choicest presents, thanks to the happy forethought of Mrs. Armour and Mrs. Fawcett, who presided at and were hostesses of this wonderful feast. When scarcely recovered from the pleasures of the 23rd a great treat awaited the youngsters on Xmas Eve, at the invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Ayrton, who had also made provision for the small ones, about 31 of whom sat down to a repast of delicacies, and wound up by discussing a pie of huge dimensions, containing sweets, puzzles and musical instruments which were astonishing (in their sounds) to the audience as well as to the performers.

The weather has been deliciously mild the last few days and we hear the rebels and banditti have been well kept in check by the Imperialists, sent to oppose them, from here and other parts of the province.

29th December.

An unusual thaw set in yesterday and there was no frost last night. It is raining a little and we may expect a great change shortly, either a strong north wind, or snow.

30th December, 1891.

TAMSUI.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The past year has not been so lively or so full of incidents here in our little world as it has been for you in the north of China, but still I believe that we have a few things of general interest to tell you.

The most important thing for us is perhaps that we have a new Governor here. As you know, the late one, H.E. Liu Ming-chuan, was a very genial gentleman, who started many things here, but as he finished very few before his departure and left anything but a full treasury, H.E. Shao-Yu-lin, the new Governor, will have enough to do to see fair in all the different matters. What our future will be is very hard to say, but it seems to me apparent already that whatever is taken in hand now is done thoroughly and without mincing matters.

In every respect except in coal export it has been a good year for us.

The Government Coal Mines at Paktow have practically finished; the Engineer, Mr. Reid, is dismissed and nearly all the work has stopped. The meaning was and, I believe, still is, to give up Paktow and shift the mines to Wangwang, about four miles south of Kelung by the river, where excellent coal abounds, and from where a branch line would connect with the main railway line, and the coal could be carried to the inner harbour and, by making a wharf, shipped at any time and in such a manner that this would very soon be a powerful port of competition with the existing coal depôts. How far this idea will be carried out or improved upon is hard to say, but rumour says that His Excellency is fully aware of the natural wealth that we walk on here every day without using it.

The gold industry has sprung up during the last year near Kelung and a good deal has been exported, mostly to Hongkong. As it grows richer the higher the gold washers follow the river up amongst the hills, and as they up there find gold on the hillsides too, I suppose that rich gold seams will be found before long in our vicinity, but of course it requires experienced and scientific work to find those seams and to locate them properly. The gold dust was first detected mixed in the sand which was used for ballasting the railway line.

The camphor monopoly ended last Chinese New Year, and the consequence was the starting of new work to such an extent that the prices declined a good deal on account of it. Now however this, like so many other things in this good old world, finds its own level, as our interesting friends, the savages from the east, have broken in and made a sad havoc in many places. It is a curious warfare that is carried on in such a jungle as there; it is impossible to see any distance and our wild friends creep on to their enemies before they are aware of their presence and kill right and left in a thoroughly professional manner. The worst is that they take the arms and ammunition along with them when they have killed, and in consequence become more mischievous. I saw last month a beautiful field battery of mountain guns just delivered over to the Government, I believe by Count Butler in Taipei; they were standing in the *yamen* in Takoham all ready for use. I hear now that in the last engagement, in which a lot of people were killed, one of those guns was taken, ammunition and all, and the funniest part of it is that this gun has not been paid for yet. On the whole it is a precarious trade, the camphor traffic, and it is very unpleasant indeed for proprietors to find that where they one day had a flourishing establishment with hundreds of jars steaming away and a lot of skilled men attending them, they find occasionally the next day a smoking heap of ruins, broken jars and headless people. The so-called second Governor Lin Bam-ban is a Formosa man, very rich and powerful, and it is part of his duties to keep the savages quiet. He is now trying all he can, and we hope that he will succeed, but we can say in truth that this, the camphor trade although interesting, is often a very expensive and always a very laborious trade to embark in.

The railway has been finished to Kelung and only wants the strengthening of a single place, which is being done now, to make it complete. Half of this, and that the most difficult half, has been done during the last year. To the south two more stations have been opened and they are working ahead there at a good speed, as the work is easy and level ground for a long way to come. It is a fact that we can now always when we like travel on the railway in the same day from Kelung, where the rainy season is now, to where it is dry season and hardly ever rains at this time of the year. The railway to the south is now abreast of Takoham and the large tea districts on the plateau to the west of this place; a tramway through them (all level ground) and to the camphor emporium Takoham would pay, but who is to do it?

In conclusion we wish all our friends on the main land a very happy New Year and hope to have the same ourselves.

10th January.

T'SINGKIANGP'U.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Travel across the canal has been greatly impeded lately on account of the opening of our only drawbridge, to let the Emperor's rice boats pass down. They went up to Tientsin in May and are just now returning. There are over seven hundred of them, and as there is quite a fall here, the outlet narrow and the current swift, they have to be let through gradually by means of ropes fastened to a capstan on shore. Five or six days have been consumed in their passing and the end is not yet.

Our Chênai was taken ill several days ago, and though a man of nearly 70, he, like any of the rest of us, did not desire to shake off this mortal coil, but eagerly sought still to "borrow age" [借壽]. The method he took was Eastern, without a

doubt. Having tried physicians and finding them of no avail, he called in a sorcerer (香師), who felt his pulse and came to the conclusion that there was a soul in hell that could not pass one of the customs, of which there are very many. This soul, either one of his family, or that of some outside person, had caused the said disease in the Chênai, and this sorcerer must go down and see about it. Accordingly three rooms in the *yamen* were put at the disposal of the sorcerer, who had all the windows and doors stopped up, burned incense and paper, repeated incantations, and then feigned sleep and death, while his soul went to Hades to bargain for the release of the Chênai. Evidently the sorcerer had mistaken his diagnosis and was on the wrong track, for he failed in his errand. The patient was poorer by 50 or 60 taels, and the day following he passed away. What a contrast this high official is to a Tsaoai who lived here 15 or 20 years ago! The one actually believing in such claptrap, while the other, seeing the power of these swindlers to play upon the credulity of the people, denounced them and publicly issued a proclamation forbidding them to practise their arts and the people to employ them. Apropos of sorcerers, the shrewdness of a magistrate here was well shown some years ago in connection with one. His gatekeeper professed to be a sorcerer and was in the habit of "dying" twice a month. This "dying" consisted in the gatekeeper feigning sleep and lying around apparently insensible to everything for a whole day. The magistrate grew tired of this, so one day hearing that his gatekeeper had one of his dying fits on he went out to see him, and failing to arouse him, he remarked that he would bring him to life, and at once called for a bamboo. He ordered the gatekeeper to be divested of his nether garments and proceeded right heartily to lay on the bamboo. Sure enough he was right, for at the fourth blow the gatekeeper sang out, begging his master to desist, and promising ever after to give up his tricks of sorcery.

7th January.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTE.

(Specially translated for the North-China Herald.)

12th December.

THE INSURRECTIONARY MOVEMENT TO THE EAST OF JÊHO.

Ting An, the Imperial Military commissioner in Manchuria, and Yü Lu, the Governor of Fêngt'ien, submit a memorial in which they report the result of certain engagements which have been fought with the rebels in the Ch'ao-yang district, and give an account of the arrangements which have been made with regard to the disposition of the additional troops that have been despatched to deal with the outbreak. Immediately information reached the memorialists of the rising in Ch'ao-yang, they sent troops to suppress the movement and forwarded a joint memorial to the Throne, reporting the action they had taken in the matter. On the 22nd of November Yü Lu received an Imperial Decree which was transmitted to him by telegraph, and he then despatched another memorial giving a general summary of what was going on. Another Decree reached him on the 26th of November, a copy of which was forwarded to the military authorities with instructions to act in concert and put forth every effort to annihilate the rebels. On the 25th of November, General Nieh Kuei-lin telegraphed that on reaching the Ch'ao-yang district on the 21st of November, he learnt that the rebels had fought an engagement with the trained braves of Ch'ao-yang at a place called Pachiao Shan.

He marched at the head of his men and attacked the enemy on two sides, killing over 200 of their number and taking a dozen or more of them prisoners. The main force of the rebels effected a retreat, and on the ensuing day he followed them up to a place called T'achuat'u, about 60 li to the east of Ch'ao-yang, where he made an onslaught upon them with his whole force and killed over 50 of them. One petty officer on the Imperialist side fell in action and another was severely wounded. The rebels made good their retreat under cover of night. The pursuit was continued on the following day and the enemy were encountered drawn up in regular battle array to the number of over 2,000 men. General Nieh divided his troops into three columns, one of which was to direct the attack upon the east, the second on the west, while the third was to assail the enemy's centre. A most obstinate and hard fought engagement, lasting from seven in the morning to two in the afternoon, ended in the complete rout of the rebels, seven hundred of whom fell in action, while over thirty others were made prisoners. 200 guns, spears and other weapons, and over 20 flags were captured by the Imperialists. After the troops had been withdrawn from the field, the muster roll was called and seven men were found to be wounded. The rebels retreated towards the north and darkness coming on, the pursuit could not be continued.

On the 24th and 26th of November General K'eng Feng-ming forwarded telegraphic reports to the following effect: On the morning of the 23rd he came upon a detached body of the rebels numbering over 300, at a place called Laoyenkou about 60 li from the Ch'ingho gate in the palisade separating Manchuria from Chihli. He immediately put himself at the head of his men and made a dash for the enemy. Forty or more of them were killed, 29, including the rebel leader, Kuo Wan-ch'ang, were made prisoners, and over 100 of them were burnt to death. A great quantity of flags and ammunition was captured and the remnant of the rebels made their escape to Tamiao, Chul'ekotai, and other places. On the 25th November the enemy were pursued as far the latter place where they mustered to the number of about 1,400, all well armed and prepared to hold their ground against the Imperial troops. The General, at the head of his men, led the attack which lasted from early morning till late in the afternoon, and ended in the complete defeat of the rebels, whose loss amounted to several hundreds. The rebels gained possession of a hill and were able to effect their retreat, but they were being hotly pursued.

On the 28th November a report was received from the Military Commandant of Yichou and the Prefect, in which they stated that having discovered the presence of brigands on the frontier they despatched a force of troops to operate against them. About 80 of the enemy were encountered at a place called Shui-ch'uant'un and several women, fully armed, were noticed in their ranks. The enemy swarmed to the attack, but were driven back and obliged to take refuge in a compound which was stormed by the Imperial troops. In the mêlée which ensued a lieutenant had both his hands badly hacked, and another officer received a severe wound. Two of the rebels were killed, one man and one woman, and the head of the sect, Tu Pashih, met with the same fate. Nine others, including two females, subsequently fell fighting. The rebel leader Yang Ming managed to make his escape, but five of his confederates were captured alive.

On the 28th November Captain Yi Sang-a telegraphed that in an engagement which he had fought two days previously with the rebels he had slaughtered seventy or eighty of them and taken twenty prisoners. Such is the substance of the reports that have been received

from the various columns operating against the rebels, and it shows that the troops have acquitted themselves with dashing bravery and have gained successes in the actions that have so far taken place. The number of the rebels in the three departments and districts of Ch'ao-yang, Chien-ch'ang, and P'ingh'ian is very large, and close communication is maintained between the numerous branches of the rebel force. On the 23rd of November, Yü Lu sent re-inforcements under the command of Captain Ch'eng Nan-sên to assist in the operations that are being conducted against the enemy in the Ch'ao-yang district. Recent reports show that bands of rebels are plundering, murdering, and burning in the vicinity of Hsinlitun and Halat'aolikai. These two places are quite close to the districts of Kuangung and Hsinmin in the lower province of Manchuria and it is feared that the movement, if not checked, may spread across the frontier. Strong reinforcements have been sent to this locality under the command of General Chang Yung-ch'ing. The memorialists promise to furnish the Throne from time to time with all the reports that reach them on the subject. —Rescript already published.

13th December.

PANISHMENT OF OFFICIALS FOR NEGLECT IN CONNECTION WITH THE RECENT INSURRECTION.

The President of the Board of Civil Office and his colleagues in the other Boards submit a memorial in which, acting under Imperial instructions, they determine the penalties to be imposed upon the officials in the Jêho district for their neglect in connection with the recent outbreak. The Lieutenant-Governor at Jêho, Tê-fu, represented that the rising had its origin in a feud which the insurgents had with the Ao-han Mongolian league. The movement spread to the Ch'ao-yang district which was pillaged and devastated in all directions. Ch'ao-yang, which is an unwallied town, was over 600 li distant from the Prefectural city, and was seized before steps could be taken for its defence. The Lieutenant-Governor asked that T'ing-yung, the Taotai of Jêho, and Ch'i-sho, the Prefect of Ch'êngtê Fu, should both be handed over to the Board for the determination of a penalty, and suggested that as he himself exercised a concurrent jurisdiction over the disturbed districts, he should be similarly punished. The memorialists complain that the Lieutenant-Governor's memorial does not furnish sufficient information respecting the outrages committed by the insurgents, and await further details on this head before proceeding to deal with the civil and military authorities more immediately concerned. In the meantime, they have decided upon the following penalties for the three officials above mentioned. The Prefect of Ch'êngtê is to lose two steps of commutative rank and to be removed to another post. The Taotai of Jêho is to be degraded two steps and to be retained at his post. The Lieutenant-Governor, Tê-fu, would have been degraded one step and allowed to remain at his post, but as he has vacated office, the mark of degradation will be retained against his name in the event of his again seeking official employment. These sentences have been confirmed by Imperial Decree.

14th December.

THE SILK INDUSTRY IN KUANGSI.

In the fifth moon of the present year the Governor of Kuangsi drew attention to the success which had been attained in the introduction of the silk industry into his province, and solicited the bestowal of marks of approbation upon a number of officials and gentry who had specially exerted themselves in the matter. The Emperor, in acknowledging the receipt of this memorial, expressed his gratification at the progress which had already been made, and deferred the question of bestow-

ing rewards until the industry had spread throughout the whole province. The Governor now states that all the important centres in Kuangsi have opened silk weaving establishments and that the cultivation of the mulberry has received a great impetus. In some places the quantity of raw silk produced amounts to several tens of thousands of catties, in others it is reckoned by hundreds and thousands of catties, but everywhere the industry is being pursued with the utmost emulation. The officials and gentry have warmly supported the movement both by their subscriptions and their personal exertions, and it is fitting that their efforts should receive suitable acknowledgment. As the forwarding of continual applications for rewards could not fail to give much trouble, the Governor asks permission to issue from time to time patents of rank on his own authority, forwarding collective reports of the names of recipients periodically to the Board. —Granted by Rescript.

Meetings.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

At a Meeting of the Council held in the Board Room, No. 23, Kiangse Road, Shanghai, on Tuesday, the 12th January, 1892, at 4 o'clock p.m.

Present:—Messrs. J. G. Purdon (Chairman), J. Graham, W. D. Little, W. McDonald, D. M. Moses, E. A. Probst, N. A. Siebs, and the Secretary.

The *Stimmons* calling the meeting is taken as read.

The *Minutes* of the last meeting are read, confirmed, signed by the Chairman and passed for publication.

Cash Statement for the past week is submitted and cheques for sundry accounts are signed.

Return of Prisoners apprehended and Police daily reports for the past week are submitted.

Volunteers — Annual Inspection.—The following letters are ordered to be published.

Shanghai, 11th January, 1892.

SIR,—I have the honor to inform you that it is proposed to carry out the annual training of the Volunteers this year in the same manner as usual, and subject to your approval and the convenience of the military authorities of Hongkong, I have fixed Saturday the 9th of April as the day of the Inspection.

I hope the Council will agree to ask the General Commanding the Forces in Hongkong to allow an Officer to come to Shanghai to inspect the Corps on that date and I have also to request the Council to apply for the services of two non-commissioned Officers to assist in the training of the Artillery and Infantry say from 29th February to 9th April.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

CECIL HOLLIDAY,

Major Commanding S.M.V.C.

To JOHN G. PURDON, Esq.,
Chairman, the Shanghai Municipal Council.

Shanghai, 11th January, 1892.

SIR,—The Annual Inspection of the Shanghai Volunteers is arranged to take place on 9th April, and as the Municipal Council are desirous to have the report of a qualified officer upon the general efficiency of the Corps, I have the honor to request that your Excellency will appoint an officer to come up here and assist at the Inspection as has been done in former years.

I have also to request that you will allow the Corps the services of two drill sergeants to assist in the instruction of the Artillery and the Infantry during the training season which will commence on the 29th February, and terminate on Saturday, the 9th April.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN G. PURDON, Chairman.

To His Excellency
Major-General G. DIGBY BARKER, C.B.,
Commanding H.M. Forces in China,
and Hongkong.

Volunteers—New Appointments.—The following letter is submitted, and ordered to be published.

Shanghai, 12th January, 1892.

SIR.—I have the honour to inform you that Messrs. A. Wasserfall and A. Haupt have been duly elected 1st and 2nd Lieutenants of the German Company, with a recommendation from Captain Lehmann that the usual examination should be dispensed with, owing to both of them having served a prescribed course in the German Army, and I now beg to suggest that commissions be issued to them.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
CECIL HOLLIDAY,
Major,
Commanding S. M. V. C.

J. G. PURDON, Esq.,
Chairman, Municipal Council.

Decided to approve of and confirm these elections and to grant the commissions as recommended.

The commissions are then signed and ordered to be forwarded.

Annual Reports.—Reports for the year are submitted from the Municipal Engineer, Public Garden Committee, Captain Superintendent of Police, New Garden Committee, Local Post Master, and Thomas Hanbury School Committee.

The Meeting then adjourned.

The following reports are submitted and ordered to be published with the foregoing Minutes:—

Police.—Return of apprehensions, &c., made by the Municipal Police during the week ending the 16th day of January, 1892.

Offence.	No. of apprehensions.
Burglary	2
Cutting and wounding	1
Larceny from dwellings, &c.	25
Miscellaneous cases	52
Ricsha Licences suspended	657
" " confiscated	1
Wheelbarrow Licences suspended	41
Hand cart "	2
Beggars, Hawkers, Ragpickers, etc.	470
Total number of persons coming under the notice of Police	1,251
Chinese dead bodies found in streets.	1
Stray dogs captured	35

J. P. McEEN,

Captain-Superintendent, S.M.P.

16th January, 1892.

CHINESE RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY.

The Chinese Religious Tract Society held its thirteenth annual meeting in Shanghai yesterday afternoon. Besides other routine business the Rev. L. N. Wheeler, D.D., was elected Recording Secretary in place of the Rev. D. S. Murray, resigned, and the Rev. J. A. Silsby was elected a member of the Board of Trustees instead of the Rev. D. C. McCoy. In the absence of the Treasurer, the Rev. J. E. Cardwell, the Treasurer's report was read by the Rev. E. H. Thomson, acting Treasurer. The report showed the Society's funds to be in a flourishing condition. The Rev. Dr. Farnham, one of the Corresponding Secretaries, read the following report:—

In their entire make-up, composition, paper and binding our publications are Chinese. Very quietly and most unobtrusively they enter the Chinese homes where, in some cases, we missionaries may not gain admittance. In most eloquent and persuasive language they plead our cause and pave the way for frank and cordial intercourse between us.

If the Tract Society is a necessity in Christian lands it may be regarded as indispensable in mission work, and there is scarcely another land on the globe where it finds such scope as in China. Those who are able to read and who really seem to appreciate our books may be found everywhere and our great aim is to adapt our publications to their necessities, getting them up in a neat and attractive style and as economically as possible.

Our publications seem to penetrate every part of the empire where missionaries work or travel, and the ubiquitous colporteur takes them into many places never visited by foreigners.

Gratifying and encouraging words come from very different and distant places and the instances of conversion through the influence of religious reading are becoming much more frequent. The Rev. A. Don of New Zealand in his late "Up Country Tour" was absent seventy-nine days. He visited seventy-three places, travelling 1,654 miles, of which 1,024 were on foot. He speaks of distributing three hundred copies of our "Welcome and Warning to Chinese Immigrants" and four hundred and forty copies of "True Happiness." In his graphic and most interesting account of this journey, we find him sometimes walking through darkness and rain with a Chinaman as guide, holding meetings in their huts, sleeping with the Chinese, sharing their meals. In one place he says: "A well educated man asked 'Did you not bring any copies of *The Chinese Illustrated News*, with you? I greatly enjoy reading them, and on Sundays speak from them to the other Chinese, who say that I am a preacher of Jesus.'" At another place he says: "Another told me that he has for years read with great interest *The Chinese Illustrated News*."

Our publications still find their way in great numbers not only to New Zealand but to Australia, the Straits Settlements, Sandwich Islands and the United States and Canada.

Bible and other colporteurs find our leaflets, calendars and small tracts, facilitate the sale of their other books. Dr. DuBose's introduction to the Bible is very useful for this purpose and is well adapted to help those who buy the sacred volume to know how to read and understand it. Our publications belong principally to three classes.

First, we aim to supply the missionary with such literature as he needs in his aggressive work against heathenism. Secondly, we wish to place within the reach of the native Christians such books as will help them to read and understand the Bible and grow in Christian knowledge and zeal.

A third class may be described as educational, scientific and general literature, written from a Christian standpoint.

Leaflets and small tracts that are likely to lead the heathen to Christ, or even remove prejudice and prepare the way for the further preaching of the Gospel, are nearly indispensable to the missionary, and we feel that our standard books of this class cannot be dispensed with.

We are making our books for the native Christians and especially for Sunday reading as cheap and attractive as possible, and feel that these publications form a most important part of our work.

We cannot expect to have intelligent native Christians unless we furnish them with suitable literature.

The evangelization of China is falling more and more into the hands of the natives, and eventually they will be left alone to carry it on. How important that they should be qualified for this work! We may not be able to give them such institutions of learning as we have in Christian lands nor all of our Christian literature, but we may at once translate and publish commentaries, devotional books—books that build up the Christian character and inspire zeal for the salvation of souls. These we deem the great desideratum of the present hour.

The education and elevation of our church members and their children will depend very much upon the character of the literature we give them. Few, if any, missionaries are so blind to their own interests as to leave their native Christians to grope on in ignorance and darkness, not even knowing the existence of the books so helpful to their growth in grace.

As in former years we have met every application for help and have been glad to co-operate with those in distant and destitute places engaged in pioneering the gospel to the regions beyond, one of our largest grants was to the Canton Book-Lending Society.

This is quite a new departure and original with the native Christians. It embraces nearly all denominations, representing several thousands of native church members.

Their object is to loan to the reading portion of the community Christian books and tracts to be taken to their homes by agents of the Society who call at regular intervals and exchange the books for others as may be required.

We were much pleased with this ingenious and unique plan, and at once made a grant of \$25 in money, besides furnishing some of our publications at reduced rates. This society ordered 100 copies each of the bound volumes of the *Child's Paper* and *Chinese Illustrated News* and subscribed for 100 copies of each to be bound up quarterly in volumes.

A CHINESE TRACT SOCIETY.

This movement is quite in the line of one of the fundamental principles of the Chinese Religious Tract Society. As its name indicates, ours is a Chinese Society. Half of our Board of Trustees are Chinese with the hope that they will increase and the foreign element decrease. The Chinese are doing a good share of the writing for our periodicals. Of the 112 articles during the year 91 were from native writers, and this effort to introduce our literature to the schoolmasters, village elders, officials, etc., is one of the most encouraging things that has occurred since the introduction of Christianity into China.

We are happy to report a gradual increase in our sales. We have this year disbursed by sales and grants 21,093 more books and tracts than last, making an increase over last year of 655,975 pages. The total disbursements for the year amount to 286,931 books and tracts, making 4,380,156 pages, while our sales have reached nearly \$200 more than last year. Instances of Chinese buying our books to sell are becoming more frequent, and nearly all feel that it is very necessary to have leaflets and small tracts to distribute after preaching; as one has tersely put it, "Preaching may fix the nail, a tract may drive it home."

Dr. Milne's tract "The Two Friends" is still very popular and had he in all his life done no more than write this booklet he would have done a great work, for it is often the means of conversions.

OUR PERIODICALS

continue to be a most interesting and important part of our work. It is now nearly seventeen years since *The Child's Paper* was started, and all this time it has been conducted on the same principles, and thanks to a kind Providence has come out regularly every month. As its name denotes it is intended for children and youths, but it is also found interesting and instructive to all the Church members, and preachers find in it a fund of anecdote, cases of conversion and religious experience most helpful in illustrating and enforcing the truth. Commencing with the new year we have published the Sunday School Lessons prepared by the Peking Committee and though it necessitated an enlargement from sixteen to twenty four pages, yet thanks to the grant from the Religious Tract Society of London the price has not been increased, so it is easily within the reach of all the Sunday Schools who wish to avail themselves of this important aid to understanding the scriptures.

THE CHINESE ILLUSTRATED NEWS

is now in its twelfth year. It continues to be a bond of union and means of communication between the Chinese churches of all parts of the world, giving them religious intelligence and secular news from various

parts of their own country and other lands. These two periodicals *The Child's Paper* and *The Chinese Illustrated News* seem to exactly meet the wants of the native church and the case of enquirers who wish to know more of Christianity and at the same time are doing a most important work in a literary and scientific way. They are everywhere welcomed by the missionaries and native Christians, who give them a generous support, contributing articles and obtaining subscribers. The articles are written in a brief, lively, simple style on such subjects as history, bi-graphy, memoirs, travels, manners and customs of different nations, the various sciences, railways, education, school systems, teleph. nes, telegraphs &c., together with the discussion of religious topics intended to help the native Christians grow in Christian knowledge and spiritual life and activity.

These magazines appear on the first and fifteenth of each month and taken together are equivalent to a fortnightly magazine. They are profusely illustrated with cuts furnished for the purpose by the Religious Tract Society and the American Tract Society and everything possible is done to keep them up to the high class character they have always maintained. Kind words of approval and assurances of their usefulness come from many quarters.

During the winter months when navigation is closed in the North, the magazines are sent regularly by overland mail to our subscribers in that region.

The periodicals have been improved during the year by the addition of a cover and table of contents in English so that those who do not read Chinese may know something of their contents.

We are taking extra pains with the style of printing and binding hoping to make our books more attractive and useful.

There are in the hands of the examining Committee an unusually large number of valuable manuscripts. Our hearty thanks are due to the Religious Tract Society for the generous contribution of £100 in aid of our magazines and valuable electroplates to help illustrate the Bible Dictionary, and to the American Tract Society for a grant of electroplates for the same purpose and 500 dollars in gold, in aid of our general funds.

Amusements.

LITERARY AND DEBATING SOCIETY'S SMOKING CONCERT.

Thursday night (14th). What's to be done?

Happy Thought. Go to Literary and Debating Society's Smoking Concert at Theatre.

Full house. Consul George Jamieson in chair. Fills it very well. Equally at home squashing Taotais and running smoking concerts. Doesn't waste words and believes in good whisky. As evening advances George's pleasant face acquires fresher glow; livelier iris changes on the burnished dove, and all that sort of thing. No flies on George.

Happy Thought. Where should we be without Vinay and Bowring to tackle piano?

First vocalist, Jones, "Bedouin Love Song." Nature never meant Jones for Bedouin. Flute solo, Van Aalst, next. One not enough. Audience, like *Oliver Twist*, asks for more. Gets it. Van Aalst whistles again.

Happy Thought. V. A. ought to join Blackbirds.

Back again to song. W. Adams Oram, "Only once more." Don't stint yourself, Oram; two time, three time can do. Recitation next, Patrick Phelim H. J. O'Sharp in "Shamus O'Brien." Irish present visibly affected. Schuffenhauer next. Fine voice, fine style, fine buffo singing. Rapturous encore (Mem. for printer—not to spell that

adverb with u in first syllable like he did before).

Happy Thought. Get Schuffenhauer to sing again.

He does it. This time something about *Schöne Kellnerin von Bacharach*. Signs of thirst among audience.

Happy Thought. German often affects people that way. *Ich weiss nicht was soll es bedeuten dass ich so dürftig bin*. Probably accounts for German Club—but never mind!

Hush! gap in programme. Mary Ann Reeves not very well. Has written two songs all by himself and can't come to sing them. Very sorry. Fleet, Franks, Gratton and Lunning nobly throw themselves into breach. Tell us to "Drink, boys, drink." Why, certainly.

Happy Thought.—Look up derivation and meaning of "heydeldee." Probably Iroquois.

Quartette entered. Then comic song at last. Likewise local and topical. Bates, à la Friedenthal. Very good, but Shanghai not able to match Friedenthal's hair. Interval.

Genial George in post of duty again. Once more Vinay and Bowring clamber up and down piano. Chinese air, worked into overture by Weber. Carl Maria very smart, but piano not suitable for Chinese music. Boys and coolies present unmoved. No patriotic flush observable on their expressive visages. Anyhow, V. and B. encored this time. Very well deserved. Charlton Evans wants us to "Fill the Goblet up." Genial George hopes we're doing it.

Happy Thought. Always do what you're told.

Arthur Roberts Bates once more. "For thee, my love, for thee" and "No ill feeling." Certainly not, but feeling ill at some of the rhymes. Thank you very much, Arthur.

Recitation, Tom Brown, "The Stage Driver's Story." Equals Bill Adams for sobriety of statement. "Queen of the Earth", by new talent, Pike. Comic song, Sampson, to wind up with. Sweet refrain, "Pass by, tiddly-um, pass by." Cheers for performers and Genial George. Curtain.

Happy Thought. Go home.

SATURDAY'S PAPER HUNT.

An excellent start and finish for spectators and a splendid day for all.

The scent was traced at the commencement on the other side of the bridge opposite Oliver's Bungalow, but the Foxes, Messrs. Crosthwaite and Whitfield, in the early part of the run developed want of training. The first obstacle, one of solid mud, was a source of great grief to most who endeavoured to get through it, and those who crossed the neighbouring bridge were wise. Almost immediately afterwards the paper lay across a two-stone bridge, dangerous at any time, but with one half removed by the kindly natives, it was quite impracticable.

Two riders, one being the Master, injudiciously tried to lead their ponies across, and both fell into the creek. After this it was decided to cross to the Sicawei Road and take up the scent near "Black Auster's." It may be not unfairly said *en passant* that in cases where the natives wilfully endeavour to injure members of the hunt who are quite prepared to pay for damage done to their crops over which the paper is laid, they, the natives, are not served very unjustly when they in a measure compel riders to deviate from the course laid, and suffer in consequence.

Innumerable holes were dug in front of "Black Auster's," ground that has been almost purchased by the hunt: on the Fah Wah line the paper was mislaid, so were some of the malevolents, as riders were becoming decidedly soured by this time, one particularly acid man was noticed. Part of the false Jessfield line was taken and a scarcity of paper at the turn off in

the direction by the tidal creek, caused several to go wrong. From the tidal creek to the Jessfield road and on to the finish on the opposite side of the road to "Del Monte" the scent lay well and the pace was tremendous, almost all the ponies jumping exceptionally well, but of course this is "Leap year." First between the flags was Mr. Geo. Dallas, closely followed by Messrs. Souter, Crane, F. Dallas and Ayscough, the latter taking the heavy weight prize.

S. M. V. C.

"C" Co. MONTHLY CUP.

This competition took place on the morning and afternoon of Saturday. The day was favourable for shooting. Priv. Macdonald won the cup for the first time. Scores:—

	200 yds.	500 yds.	71.
Priv. McDonald	345444-23	534445-30	58
C. S. Bowman	443322-21	455544-32	53
Corp. Sharples	345544-29	433542-24	53
Priv. Culshaw	525442-26	422554-24	50
Corp Ross	235442-22	432455-28	50
McKenzie	553322-25	333544	25 50
Priv. McGregor	445532-27	233442-22	49
Thistle	224423-21	455520-26	47
Bartenshaw	532232-20	252534-24	44

AMOY RACES.

FIRST DAY.

Wednesday, 6th January, 1892.

1.—CONSULAR CUP.—(Presented.) For all China ponies. Half a mile.

Mr. Boyd's <i>Dunoon</i> (Mr. Boyd)	1
John Gilpin's Jr. <i>Wild Mint</i> (Mr. Wilson)	2
Captain Jack's <i>Parade</i> (Mr. Firth)	3
Four ran. Time, 1m. 7s.	

2.—TRIAL STAKES.—Of \$10 each with \$50 added. A forced entry for Amoy subscription griffins of this season. Three quarters of a mile.

Mr. Guess' <i>Quickstep</i> (Mr. Firth)	1
Dryasdust's <i>Gold Seeker</i> (Mr. Green)	2
Barney's <i>Lamorna</i> (Mr. Orlebar)	3
Four ran. Time, 1m. 41s.	

3.—FOOCHOW CUP.—(Presented.) For all China ponies. One mile and three quarters.

Mr. Frederick's <i>Borrit</i> (Mr. Firth)	1
Bruce's <i>Courage</i> (Mr. Orlebar)	2
Three ran. Time, 4m. 8s.	

4.—CHAASZE CUP.—(Presented.) Value \$100. For all China ponies. Three quarters of a mile.

Mr. Boyd's <i>Dunoon</i> (Mr. Boyd)	1
John Gilpin's Jr. <i>Serenade</i> (Mr. Orlebar)	2
Bruce's <i>Cheng Li Ma</i> (Mr. Firth)	3
Four ran. Time, 1m. 42s.	

5.—AMOY DERBY.—A Sweepstakes of \$10 each with \$25 added for 2nd pony. One mile and a quarter.

Captain Jack's <i>Parade</i> (Mr. Firth)	1
Mr. Boyd's <i>Dunoon</i> (Mr. Boyd)	2
Three ran. Time, 2m. 57½s.	

6.—TE MAACHIN PLATE.—(Presented.) One mile and a half.

Mr. Frederick's <i>Borrit</i> (Mr. Firth)	1
Boyd's <i>Dunoon</i> (Mr. Boyd)	2
John Gilpin's Jr. <i>Wild Mint</i> (Mr. Wilson)	3
Five ran. Time, 3m. 27s.	

7.—COAST CUP.—(Presented.) For Amoy subscription griffins of this season. Weights as per scale. Winner of Trial Stakes or of Amoy Derby 7lbs. extra, if of both 10lbs. extra. One mile.

Mr. Barney's <i>Lamorna</i> (Mr. Orlebar)	1
Dryasdust's <i>Gold Seeker</i> (Mr. Green)	2
Guess' <i>Quickstep</i> (Mr. Firth)	3
Four ran. Time, 2m. 20s.	

SECOND DAY.

Thursday, 7th January.

1.—COMPRADORES CUP.—(Presented.) For Amoy subscription griffins of this season. Three quarters of a mile.

Mr. Guess' <i>Quickstep</i> (Mr. Firth)	1
Boyd's <i>Dunoon</i> (Mr. Boyd)	2
Dryasdust's <i>Gold Seeker</i> (Mr. Green)	3
Four ran. Time, 1m. 41½s.	

2.—CHALLENGE CUP.—Value 50 guineas. A forced entry for all Amoy and Formosa owned ponies, optional to subscription griffins of this season. To be won two consecutive meetings by a pony or ponies, the *bond fide* property of the same owner or owners. One mile.

Mr. Boyd's *Duncraggan* (Mr. Boyd) 1
 „ Dryasdust's *Nero* (Mr. Green) 2
 „ John Gilpin's Jr. *Wild Mint* (Mr. Orlebar) 3
 Five ran. Time, 2m. 18s.

3.—VISITORS' CUP.—(Presented.) For all China ponies. Two miles.

Mr. Barney's *Lamorna* (Mr. Orlebar) 1
 „ Bruce's *Blue Ruin* (Mr. Wilson) 2
 „ Dryasdust's *Fantan* (Mr. Green) 3
 Three ran. Time, 4m. 54½s.

4.—HAEKWAN CUP.—(Presented.) Value Hk. Tls. 100. For all ponies first raced as griffins at Amoy. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Guess' *Quickstep* (Mr. Green) 1
 Captain Jack's *Parade* (Mr. Firth) 2
 Three ran. Time, 3m. 0½s.

5.—EXCHANGE PLATE. (Presented.) For all China ponies. Three quarters of a mile.

Mr. Dryasdust's *Nero* (Mr. Green) 1
 „ John Gilpin's, Jr., *Wild Mint* (Mr. Orlebar) 2
 „ Boyd's *Dunrobin* (Mr. Boyd) 3
 Three ran. Time, 1m. 40½s.

6.—BUND CUP.—(Presented.) Value \$— For *bond fide* griffins at date of entry. One mile.

Mr. Guess' *Quickstep* (Mr. Firth) 1
 „ Boyd's *Dunraven* (Mr. Boyd) 2
 „ Dryasdust's *Gold Secker* (Mr. Green) 3
 Five ran. Time, 2m. 2½s.

7.—AMOY STAKES.—A forced entry of \$10 each for all ponies entered at this meeting. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Frederick's *Borvil* (Mr. Firth) 1
 „ Boyd's *Duncraggan* (Mr. Boyd) 2
 „ Dryasdust's *Fantan* (Mr. Green) 3
 Four ran. Time, 2m. 54s.

THIRD DAY, Friday, 8th January.

1.—LEDGER CUP.—(Presented.) For all China ponies. Seven furlongs.

Mr. Boyd's *Duncraggan* (Mr. Boyd) 1
 „ John Gilpin's Jr., *Wild Mint* (Mr. Orlebar) 2
 „ Dryasdust's *Nero* (Mr. Green) 3
 Three ran. Time, 1m. 57s.

2.—FORMOSA CUP.—(Presented.) For *bond fide* griffins at date of entry, and for all ponies first raced as griffins in Amoy. One mile.

Mr. Barney's *Lamorna* (Mr. Jenkins) 1
 „ Guess' *Quickstep* (Mr. Firth) 2
 Capt. Jack's *Parade* (Mr. Green) 3
 Five ran. Time, 2m. 19s.

3.—LADIES' PURSE.—(Presented.) For all China ponies. To be ridden by residents of Amoy, Foochow and Formosa. Once round and a distance.

Mr. Boyd's *Dunoon* (Mr. Thomas) 1
 „ John Gilpin's Jr., *Serenade* (Mr. Wilson) 2
 „ Bruce's *Courage* (Mr. Jenkins) 3
 Four ran. Time, 1m. 21½s.

4.—LOTTERY CUP.—For subscription griffins of this season. One mile and a half.

Mr. Barney's *Lamorna* (Mr. Orlebar) 1
 „ Boyd's *Dunraven* (Mr. Boyd) 2
 „ Bruce's *Chips* (Mr. Wilson) 3
 Five ran. Time, 3m. 33½s.

5.—CONSOLATION CUP.—Value \$100. For all beaten ponies that have run and not won a race at this meeting. One mile.

Mr. John Gilpin's Jr., *Wild Mint* (Mr. Wilson) 1
 „ John Gilpin's Jr., *Mainbrace* (Mr. Jenkins) 2
 „ Dryasdust's *Fantan* (Mr. Green) 3
 Three ran. Time, 2m. 19½s.

6.—CHAMPION STAKES.—A forced entry for all winners at this meeting except Nil Desperandum Stakes. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Frederick's *Borvil* (Mr. Firth) 1
 „ Dryasdust's *Nero* (Mr. Green) 2
 „ Boyd's *Dunoon* (Mr. Jenkins) 3
 Five ran. Time, 2m. 48s.

7.—NIL DESPERANDUM STAKES.—For all beaten *bond fide* griffins that have run at this meeting. Once round and a distance.

Mr. Bruce's *Chips* (Mr. Wilson) 1
 „ do. *Courage* (Mr. Firth) 2
 „ Boyd's *Dunrobin* (Mr. Boyd) 3
 Four ran. Time, 1m. 20s.

Correspondence.

NAVAL COURTS OF ENQUIRY.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—Will you kindly insert the following letter in your valuable paper, anent "Courts of Enquiry," which will be edifying to the general public and of great interest to the seafaring community here and elsewhere.

I do not know of anything that is more in need of improvement than the present mode of composing courts of enquiry into the conduct of merchant captains and officers. A case in point is the loss of the *Yunnan*. The President of the court was a navigating Lieutenant of a man-of-war, who is practically on a grade with the second or navigating officer of a P. & O. steamer, the Captain of a P. and O. steamer being the only Captain included in the court. Even he, I presume, has little or no coasting knowledge and is probably much junior in command to the master on whose case he sat in judgment.

The third member of the court was the British Vice-Consul, no seaman at all. Now there were available as assessors men of great experience in command of both ocean-going and also coasting steamers, and I am told a request that such men should be appointed was refused, which seems at the least very strange. Now I would ask, can any of the above court or all of them put together, run one of the coasting steamers from Shanghai Bund to any of the coast ports, say Swatow or Amoy, and enter these ports at all times of tide, etc., and make good time? I think not. I am sorry to think that men who must feel that they could not do this work are entirely out of place when set in judgment on those who can. What has become of the good old law, or the spirit of the law, that a man should be judged by his peers only? The sentence against Capt. Peacock seems very unjust, as will be admitted by all seamen of experience, and also on the other hand very light on the chief officer, who, the evidence shows, ran the ship on shore on a clear moonlight morning, having the light-house and the land in sight all the time. This case is only paralleled by the case of the s.s. *Dacca*, in the Red Sea.

In the coasting steamers the captain has to be on deck day and night at all difficult or narrow passes; between whiles he may snatch a few hours', sometimes minutes', sleep. Off the Cape of Good Hope on a clear moonlight night, ship steaming slow, chief officer in charge (who has been there several times), if a captain is not justified in taking a sleep then, when is he entitled to sleep at all? What station does such a court place the first officer in if he is not responsible for the ship, while the Captain is asleep? Is he anybody at all? What does his certificate entitle him to as regards responsibility? Is he capable of being an officer at all if he can run a ship on shore against the land in a clear moonlight night and a good light on the land? Does such a court presume to say that the captain would have been responsible in the least if the ship had collided with another steamer under the same circumstances? The land certainly did not come half way to meet the ship.

The letter in your paper of the 13th inst. asking what an officer is for, is very much to the point, and I fully endorse the opinions therein stated. There seem to be too many of the class mentioned who appear to have no brains or judgment and must in the commonest cases fly off for the Captain, not apparently having sense enough to head the ship

away from a visible danger. I hear the captain of the *Yunnan* intends placing his case in the hands of the London Shipmasters' Association, and I have no doubt when the case is judged by more competent men, the decision will be somewhat different, the present one having given dissatisfaction to the whole of the seafaring community here. The Captain, I hear, has had a successful career as a shipmaster for eleven years and has been fortunate enough to gain the confidence of all his employers. I am certain that the China Navigation Co. had a very high opinion of him also. This makes his case all the harder, seeing that he has not proved himself unworthy, but simply the victim of misplaced confidence. Considering how this case has gone, I, as a coasting master, feel quite at a loss to know when it will be safe for me to sleep. Has the Marine Officers' Association no interest in this case? Is it satisfied with the verdict? More especially, is it pleased with the composition of the court? Is it satisfied with the insult conveyed by the refusal to allow coasting captains of experience to sit in judgment? I should like to hear it express an opinion on the subject, before it rolls over and goes to sleep again.

I am, etc.,
SHIPMASTER.

18th January.

JAPAN RELIEF.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—In answer to the appeal made to the Missionaries and native Christians in behalf of the Japanese Relief Fund, I have received in all Tls. 144.71 and \$601.44. I have remitted to Dr. Lambuth at Kobe the sum of \$688.61, which he has gratefully acknowledged, and forwarded to the Missionaries engaged in the distributing work at Nagoya. The letters from that place are expressed in most thankful terms, the benefactions being the means of doing a great amount of good.

Allow me to acknowledge the following sums as received since the previous remittances were published in the *Temperance Union and Messenger* :—

Rev. Mr. Taylor, Canton Wesleyan Church	\$29 00
„ Mr. Jenkins	\$5.00
„ Dr. Smith	\$5.00
„ Mr. Carritt	\$24.00
Bishop Moule, offertory in Hangchow, C.M.S.	\$19.23
Messrs. Deacon & Co., Canton	Tls. 74.35
Do. Do.	20.36
St. John's College, January 11th ..	50.00
Rev. Dr. Wheeler	\$5.00

I am, etc.,
WM. MUIRHEAD.

18th January.

Poetry.

IN MEMORY OF

PRINCE ALBERT VICTOR,
Duke of Clarence and Avondale.

Dead! with thy marriage day at hand!

Dead! with the sounds of health
and joy

Greeting thy brother sailor-boy

Back from the solemn border-land:

England dark-palled with winter-gloom
Draws darker down her mourning
shroud;

I hear the voice of weeping loud

Across the circling Empire come.

Sweet mother! Ah! sweet widowed
bride,

We too would weep for Victor dead!

With thee, dear England's Queen,
whose head

Bows ever by the mourner's side:

Yet I can hear afar the soft
Sweet thrushes sing above the snow;
Spring comes from winter's death,
they know;
And gladness follows woe full oft.

So closer round the darkened Throne
Rally each English heart and hand;
But O! for the sight of that fair
Land
Where death and sorrow are unknown.

A. E. M.

Miscellaneous.

FRENCH MUNICIPAL SCHOOL.

There was a large attendance on Monday afternoon at the French Municipal Hall on the occasion of the annual distribution of prizes in connection with the French Municipal School for Chinese. The French Consul-General, M. Wagner, presided, and several Chinese officials, including the Taotai and Chelsien, were present during a part of the proceedings. As usual, an excellent programme, well calculated to show the success attending the method of instruction adopted, was carried out by the pupils, many of whom showed themselves able to speak French with a clearness and correctness which many a European might envy. Not only were there a declamation, two dialogues (one dealing with the subject of electricity) and complimentary speeches in French and Chinese, but there was singing in both languages, to the accompaniment of a harmonium, played by one of the Chinese teachers.

During the early part of the proceedings M. Brunat, Chairman of the French Municipal Council, gave a short address in which he pointed out that the school had been established with the object of propagating among the young Chinese of the concession a knowledge of the French language and European ideas. Tangible results in this direction had already been obtained. Several of the former pupils were employed as interpreters, and had obtained employment in the Municipality and in other situations. Two of their teachers, Messrs. Li Kien-sang and Chang Nen-ping had been to France to perfect their knowledge, and had been teaching French for more than a year. These results were largely due to the energy of the former President of the Municipal Council and of the school committee, M. Chapsal. But they were still more due to the zeal and devotion of the lamented Père Capitaine whose loss they had experienced during the year. He (the speaker) felt it his duty to bear public testimony, both in the name of the Council and of the scholars, to the esteem and love with which they regarded the late father. He had been replaced in the direction of the school by Père Crochet, who would spare no pains to advance the work already begun. Referring to the instruction imparted in the school, the speaker went on to say that the course of study included not only the French language, spoken and written, grammar, geography, arithmetic and several other useful subjects, but a course of Chinese to maintain in the pupils a knowledge of their own tongue. Père Crochet had this year added instruction in music, in which he had been usefully and happily assisted by their Chinese professor M. Père Yu. The songs which had been sung, after so short a time of study, were an augury of the happiest results in the future. Turning to the prize list, M. Brunat observed that the "encouragement prizes" had been discontinued, there appearing to be no further need for them. The number of prizes had been reduced, but those now given were of greater value than before. In conclusion the speaker thanked

H.E. the Taotai for the interest which he had taken in the school—an interest shown by the forwarding of several prizes and by his presence on that occasion.

The distribution was then proceeded with at intervals, the Taotai and Chelsien handing some of the prizes to the successful scholars, and M. Wagner continuing the ceremony after the Chinese officials' departure.

THE LATE PRINCE ALBERT VICTOR.

A correspondent sends us the following note:—

The character of Prince Albert Victor, who has been so early taken away, was one likely to be so little known, that some comments made upon him by an officer of the Tenth Hussars may be of interest to the general reader. "To begin with," said he, "the Prince is a thorough gentleman from the crown of his head to the tip of his toes. It is nothing to say of him he could not do an ungentlemanly action or say an ungentlemanly word, for he could not think an ungentlemanly thought even if he tried. His one desire is always to do the right thing, and no one is more pleased than he when he has succeeded. For he feels he never can come up to his father's standard, being physically so weak. When he joined the Tenth we all thought we had got hold of a muff of a prince, but we soon found out our mistake when he came in second in a regimental steeple chase, for if there is one thing the Tenth think they can do better than other people it naturally is to ride. Of course, as everyone knows, 'The Tenth don't dance.' We never have danced, and we don't dance now. But we flatter ourselves we can ride, so when Collars and Cuffs, as people would call him, came in second we began to realise what stuff he was made of. But I was shocked to see how weak he was. Coming back from the races with the Prince, and in the same railway carriage with him, I looked across at him fast asleep, and could have thought he was a dead man, he was so completely done up, and yet we had done nothing but lounge about. He felt always it was impossible for him to come up to his father's standard, and stood in great awe of him. On the other hand he adored his mother. I know there have been bad reports about him. They are false as possible. I don't say he was clever or brilliant; he had great difficulty even in learning his drill; but he was a thorough gentleman through and through." This was all said last summer, and gives a very touching outline sketch of the young man who was to have married the lovely Princess May next month, if only he had not died.

THE REBELLION IN MONGOLIA.

We append a translation of a letter written by a Chinese priest from the centre of the terrible scenes which have been enacted in the north. The letter is dated 15th December, and has just reached Shanghai:

There are in Mongolia two sects, the Taoists (*Tsai-li* 在禮) and the Rationalists (*Kin-tan-tao* 金丹道) whose members, gathered from every class of people, *literati*, merchants, labourers, officials, and the like have long been infamous in the country for their injustice and wickedness. One of their leaders, named Hui Yong (許榮) had in particular become the terror of the inhabitants on account of his burglarious habits. Finding himself watched by the local mandarins, who waited for a good opportunity to seize him, he fled away to Saunkiatz (卅家子) in the district of Kienchaug (建昌縣), where he had many partisans and could with their help continue his life of rapine.

The crop last year having been almost destroyed, the people of that district were

soon reduced to misery. Impelled by hunger they applied, about the beginning of August, to the petty magistrates and to the rich merchants for grants of rice, promising to repay them in the autumn. Every one in China knows what such promises are worth. The merchants promised to comply with the request, and a day was appointed on which an equal distribution of rice was to be served out to every person, whether a native or a stranger. In the meanwhile, however, the crafty merchants secured the help of Hui Yong and when two days after a long file of men and women, bag in hand, walked up to the rice shop, they found the bravo standing by the front door. There was a moment of hesitation, but hunger was stronger than fear. They rushed on the man who, knocked down and trampled under foot by the crowd, was soon a corpse. Fearing the consequences of their act and anticipating retaliation from the dead man's *confrères*, the people agreed to lay the blame on the Christians, and the rumour was soon circulated throughout the town that the Christians were guilty of the crime. Without inquiring into the facts of the case, the Rationalists took up the cry, threats of death were freely uttered against the Christians and a riot became imminent. Message after message was sent to the *yamen*, but the appeals for protection were disregarded by the local mandarin, who contented himself by saying the reports were unfounded and there was nothing to fear. In short, help was refused.

This was the state of affairs when, on the 16th of the 10th moon (November 17th) a violent mob rushed to the residence of the missionaries at Sankiatz, broke into the house, seized the Chinese priest Ling, stole all they could lay their hands on and burnt church, house and orphanage. Of all the persons living there, men, women and orphans, not a single one was left alive: some were burnt in the house, others killed on the spot. Some, who escaped from the building, were soon overtaken and slaughtered. Then the mob scattered in all directions in search of new victims, and wherever houses of Christians were found, the inhabitants were murdered, their property stolen and the houses burnt to the ground.

The fiendish work is not yet over. Two victims are still captive. Father Ling is dragged to a temple and tied fast to one of the two masts in front of it. He is called upon to apostatise. But threats are vain; he remains firm. Guns are then levelled at him, and he is shot dead; his body is immediately ripped up, and pulling from the still panting corpse, the heart, liver and lungs, the murderers fix these ghastly trophies at the top of the mast. There remains a woman with child. Kerosene oil is poured over the poor mother and they burn her alive.

After this first exploit, in which some hundred Christian families were thus slaughtered, the rioters proceeded to Ping-chünchow (平泉州). Another appeal for protection was made to the Sub-prefect Wên Pu-ni (文布年), but, though renewed several times, it was always in vain. The rioters, however, were not yet so bold as to act openly. They sent a message to the mandarin. They had not, they said, taken arms against the government; they only asked him to carry out their revenge on Christians by burning and destroying their houses. This strange license being granted them, they entered the town, sacked and burned down the Church, the orphanage and houses of the Christians. Far from opposing them, the officials and soldiers of the *yamen*, in the hope of sharing in the booty, kindly invited the plunderers to search out all the Christians, and proclaimed that any person who should give shelter to Christians would be treated as such. The complainant Wên Pu-ni in the meantime was spreading the rumour that in the residence of the missionaries,

there was hid a huge heap of bones—bones of children devoured by cannibal foreigners, of course—and sent this piece of news by letter to General Yeh, who is said to be one of the *Kin-tan-tao*.

General Yeh no sooner received the letter than he issued a proclamation against Christians and sent copies of it everywhere. The calumny was believed, and, equally exasperated against the *Kin-tan-tao* men, the *Tsai-li* men and the Christians, the people rose up against them; the former rioters openly declared themselves, and a regular rebellion now broke out.

Li'aoyang Hsien (劉陽縣) was soon occupied by thousands of rebels; the prisons were broken open, all criminals were let loose and the rage of the rebels was turned against the inhabitants. Their property was seized, and themselves butchered. Several noble families were massacred and so few people escaped in that great town and the surrounding districts, that for a distance of several hundred *li* not a family has been spared.

A certain Chü (朱), one of the ring-leaders, assumed the title of Emperor, and, to give himself greater prestige, took as wives and concubines several of the wives and daughters of the massacred nobles.

Another leader named Wei Lao-tao (衛老道), renowned for magic art, gave his soldiers a spell which was supposed to preserve them from death. Every morning they were to swallow a magic pill intended to give them courage. On their flags was written 興大 *Hsing Ta Ming*, (Let us raise the dynasty of the Ming), 滅大清 *Mich Ta Ts'ing* (and destroy the present dynasty of the Ts'ing), and also 榮華富貴 *Yung hwa fu kuei tsai tsu men* (honour, riches, dignities are to us).

In every town or village through which the rebel forces passed, they proceeded to kill all the inhabitants.

Fortunately, after a time, Li Hung-chang sent troops against them. On the 20th of the 10th moon (November 21st) the first battle was fought. The rebels numbered upwards of 10,000 men. Wei Lao-tao had taken up his position on an imperial chariot formerly given by the great Kang Hsi to the temple of Kuanti, and on which chariot the idol is seated for the annual pageant. Whilst the troops of Li Hung-chang attacked the rebels in front, the soldiers of the sub-prefect of Kinchang Hsien fell on their rear; they were thus defeated, 470 men were killed, more than a hundred made prisoners and Wei Lao-tao himself was slain. The remainder escaped to Sankiatz, but the Jehol forces followed them up, slaying some 40 of them.

The rebels of the *Kintantao* sect still numbered upwards of 10,000 men. Several more battles were fought. The rebels, though superior in number, being badly drilled and too confident in their magic, were defeated and their sham Emperor made prisoner. Two mandarins were also killed.

I hear that among the rebels there are many rioters who came here from Kiangnan after the disturbances.

Among the imperial troops, there are also many wicked men doing great harm to the populations they have come to defend. This year the crop failed again and the number of the poor has considerably increased. The few families who were still well-off have been robbed by the imperial soldiers of all the provisions they had in store. They cannot obtain protection from the mandarins, as these only care to get rich at the people's expense.

Here is a new instance of the cruelty of the rebels. A mandarin, unable to oppose them, had piled up on several carts his family, his provisions and his riches. He had just arrived at the foot of the moun-

tains when he was overtaken by the rebels, despoiled of all that he had, and slain. The next morning, wishing to make certain that they had left nothing unplundered, the rebels came again to the spot and there discovered an infant crying for food. Unmoved by this pitiful sight, they caught hold of the child, seized it by the legs and pulled them apart, tearing the poor infant in two. Would to God that this may be the end of our calamities!

LA VIE A SHANGHAI.

UN ORCHESTRE D'AMATEURS.

La musique adoucit les mœurs, c'est son rôle, c'est presque sa mission ici-bas. La musique est un présent divin. Les dieux, du haut de leur Olympe, où ils savourent en joyeuse compagnie, dit-on, l'ambrosie aux chaudes et pénétrantes senteurs de truffes, nous l'ont envoyée sur terre, pris d'une touchante commisération pour nous autres, pauvres diables et vilains. Voici, je présume, le raisonnement de ces braves et excellents dieux auxquels on peut assurément reprocher d'être de joyeux "fétards," mais qui n'en ont pas moins pour cela le cœur sur la main. Ils se sont écriés: "Les humains, misérables êtres, bizarrement composés de chair et d'âme, en un accouplement carnavalesque et désoire de matière et de pensée, esclaves de leurs passions, de leurs vices, mais aussi de leurs besoins et de leurs instincts, mis au monde uniquement pour souffrir et mourir, mais profitant de leur bien court passage sur la maigre et peu réjouissante planète qu'on appelle la terre, pour s'entre-déchirer et s'entre-dévorer, les hommes enfin, puisqu'il faut les appeler par leur nom, sont bien à plaindre, et nous les plaignons sincèrement. Ayons donc pitié d'eux de façon plus effective que par la seule dépense de nos lamentations platoniques. Envoyons leur la musique." Et la musique fut.

A l'heure actuelle, en l'an de grâce 1892, on en fait partout, on en compose partout, on en exécute partout. Chaque ville a son orchestre, chaque village a sa fanfare. Il m'a été donné d'entendre, audition fantastique! la *Mars illusoise* exécutée sur la guitare primitive et informée d'un naturel du Congo, comme à Tientsin j'ai applaudi à la virtuosité d'un amateur chinois, grattant pas trop mal, sur une viole indigène, l'air national et royal de l'Angleterre.

En France, nous possédons plus de sociétés musicales, instrumentales ou vocales, que nous ne comptons de sociétés de gymnastique et de tir. Et ce n'est pas peu dire. J'ai assisté à bien des festivals, à ces concours grandioses, groupés en une vaste place, aux Tuileries, au Palais de l'Industrie, au Trocadéro, dans les "halls" gigantesques de l'Exposition du Champ de Mars, des milliers d'orphéons, cuivres ou voix, le tout donnant ensemble, en une étrange et désagréable cacophonie, parfois. Je ne parle pas, bien entendu, ici, des orchestres professionnels, merveilleux, sans rivaux, dans lesquels je comprends aussi bien ceux de l'Opéra, de la Société des Concerts du Conservatoire, des Concerts Lamoureux, que cette incomparable musique militaire de la Garde Républicaine.

Je n'ai en vue que ces groupements libres d'amateurs, de gens de bonne volonté, ouvriers, commerçants ou petits employés, qui se délassent, le soir, de la fatigue du jour, en faisant de la musique. Eh bien! j'ai éprouvé parfois en ces sortes d'assemblées sans prétention, de vraies sensations artistiques.

Toutefois, et je l'avoue en toute sincérité, jamais je n'ai trouvé d'équivalence aux diverses et multiples impressions recueillies par moi, en Chine, à l'audition de la "Philharmonique de Shanghai."

C'est une société unique en son genre. Son caractère particulier est de se distinguer de toutes les autres associations similaires. Elle est *sui generis*, et d'une singularité de composition si nouvelle, si imprévue, si

intéressante à la fois, que je ne puis résister au désir de la faire connaître, sinon au public de Shanghai, tout au moins aux nombreux lecteurs, *extra muros* et d'outremer, du *North-China Herald*.

Ce qui frappe tout d'abord en elle, c'est son caractère à la fois cosmopolite et démocratique. Babel est à Shanghai, où nous trouvons à nouveau, après bien des siècles écoulés, la confusion des langues. Ici, toutes les races se coudoient, se frottent, se confondent presque. La musique achève l'œuvre commencée par le "business," les intérêts réciproques, et la nécessité de vivre en bonne entente parceque l'on vit côte-à-côte. Elle rapproche, resserre plus intimement les individus, les associe, opère la fusion complète. Enfin, elle fait l'accord parfait. N'est-ce pas son rôle, après tout?

Si les gens ne parlent pas le même dialecte, leurs instruments traduisent cette unique langue sonore et divine, représentée par les petits points noirs et autres menues vignettes, qui dégringolent sur les cinq barres de la portée.

Dans la répartition que le hasard seul a faite des instruments, les cuivres et les bois sont dévolus à mes compatriotes français. Les Anglais, les Américains et les Allemands se sont attribués les cordes. Les Portugais grappillent un peu partout. Un Manillais se charge de scier la contrebasse avec son monumental archet. En un alignement parfait, et faisant face au pupitre du chef d'orchestre, cinq violoncelles tirent de leur carcase en bois un son humain, grave, plaintif, tout vibrant. A droite et à gauche, l'armée des violons et des altos; derrière, les flûtes, les clarinettes et les haut-bois; puis, fermant la colonne, les pistons, les cors, et autres instruments qui rentrent dans la classe de la trompette.

Les partitions sont sur chaque pupitre, le "band master" lève sa baguette, et l'orchestre attaque les premières mesures d'une symphonie de Beethoven. Les quatre parties sont achevées. A Beethoven succède Hérold avec son ouverture du *Pré aux clercs*. J'interroge, dans le court intervalle qui sépare les deux exécutions, et je suis stupéfait d'apprendre que tous ces musiciens amateurs et improvisés ont exécuté leur symphonie à première vue, comme ils vont faire pour l'ouverture qui doit suivre. C'est réellement merveilleux.

Je suis, certes, loin d'affirmer que cet orchestre puisse être opposé à un orchestre d'ordre, et, comme je l'ai dit plus haut, à un orchestre professionnel. Quoi qu'il en soit, il est de force à interpréter les maîtres anciens et modernes. Combien nous sommes loin des fa-fares bruyantes, alimentées par de seuls pas redoublés ou quelques polkas de guinguettes! Dans l'ensemble, se détachent de vrais artistes. Je signale un violoncelliste de jolie force. Les premiers violons marchent comme un seul homme. J'adresse un petit bravo à une clarinette, à la première flûte, à certain haubois. Ce sont des forts qui protègent les faibles.

Au bout de quelques répétitions, le morceau est sur pied; il est digne d'être servi au grand public de Shanghai, en une solennelle représentation du *Lycée*. Les virtuoses sortent des rangs. Une toute jeune fille américaine a exécuté récemment, avec une vraie maestria, les difficiles variations de *Faust* pour violon, par Allard.

Ce qui est nouveau, curieux à signaler, c'est que ces amateurs ne craignent pas de se montrer sur la scène. L'orchestre de la "Philharmonique" comprend des gens de toutes les conditions sociales, depuis la plus élevée jusqu'à la plus modeste, et lors du spectacle public, nous voyons tout le monde à son poste, les hommes en tenue de soirée, et les jeunes filles, en robe blanche d'ordinaire. De même, dans la partie de concert, une dame de la société anglaise succède, à son tour de programme, au chanteur comique ou de romance, employé de banque, journaliste ou chef de maison. Il est également des représentations théâtrales,

des pièces de comédie jouées en anglais, qui ont pour excellents interprètes des interprètes mondains. La vérité, c'est qu'on est en famille à Shanghai.

Je reviens à mon orchestre d'amateurs, pour en signaler la composition vraiment démocratique. Si à Shanghai, il y a des castes, une *noblesse marchande* qui ne fraye pas avec tout le monde, des petits groupes ou coteries qui essaient de donner le *la* du grand genre, si certaine "société d'admiration mutuelle" fonctionne orgueilleusement, s'imaginant qu'elle a installé, en Chine, une succursale du faubourg Saint-Germain de France, la société philharmonique a le suprême mérite de faire *voisiner* l'épicier—cet honorable négociant est, à la fois, mon propriétaire et mon ami—qui vend sa moutarde le jour, avec le haut fonctionnaire des douanes impériales. Cet orchestre, en vérité, mélange toutes les conditions et toutes les professions. Voici dans la ligne des violons un érudite docteur qui fait consciencieusement sa partie. Sa fillette est à côté de lui. Je ne poursuis pas les exemples, suffisamment transparents.

J'allais oublier le chef, l'âme. Ce serait injuste. Car il a le suprême mérite d'avoir fondu tous les éléments de son orchestre en un tout homogène. Quel œil, quelle oreille, mes amis, et surtout quel bras ! Il rattrape les retardataires, les remet en route, enlève son petit monde. C'est de la magie. Il est Espagnol. Il en fallait bien un pour que toute l'Europe fût représentée dans ce microcosme musical. Il est commandeur de l'ordre d'Isabelle la Catholique. C'est une distinction que lui vaut sa réelle valeur de musicien.

Dans cette vie de Shanghai, que je me propose d'étudier sous ses divers aspects, je ne pouvais omettre de parler, en premier lieu, de cet orchestre d'amateurs, qui n'a pas son équivalent en aucun autre point du monde.

HENRI BROYOS.

FIRE ON BOARD THE *FEILUNG*.

On Saturday morning a report was circulated in the Settlements that the *Feilung* had been on fire during the night, but it was afterwards found that the vessel was the *Feilung*, which was laid up and lying alongside the *Feiching* in the 7th section. The damage done is estimated at between £15,000 and £16,000. It seems that at 3.10 a.m. on Saturday a quartermaster called Captain Ballard and informed him that the vessel was on fire. Captain Ballard, who was in the chart room at the time, immediately had the fire bell rung and proceeded to the spot where the fire was. It was found to be in the saloon aft. Pumps were soon brought into requisition and willing hands from other vessels soon appeared on the scene, among them the second mate of the *Tamsui* with a boat's crew with buckets, and the crew of the *Feiching*. They all worked with a will, but did not succeed in extinguishing the flames. While they were so engaged the C. N. Co.'s steamer *Poyang*, Captain Perks, passing down river on her way to Hankow, was turned round and then went alongside the *Feilung* across whose deck she passed lines of hose and played four powerful streams down into the burning saloon, holes having been cut in the deck for that purpose. The operation of extinguishing the flames did not

then last long, and all danger being over, she proceeded on her way. There were over two feet of water in the *Feilung's* saloon, which had been completely gutted, all the cabins having been destroyed and one or more of the iron deck beams warped. The origin of the fire is unknown, but there is a fireplace in the fore part of the saloon and a fire had been lighted in it to dry the paint as the cabins had been painted on Friday. It was owing to this that Captain Ballard was living in the chart room. He visited the saloon at 1.30 a.m. and left it all safe soon afterwards.

We believe the loss is covered at Lloyd's and locally. It is strange that none of the men-of-war appear to have known anything about the fire till it was nearly out.

LOSS OF THE *NANCHOW*.

We issued an Extra on Monday announcing that the vessel which sank off Cupchi Point on the morning of the 8th instant was the *Nanchow*. We are now able to give some of the details of the catastrophe. On Tuesday last, the *compradore* and clerk of the steamer, accompanied by the nephew of the owner, arrived at Swatow overland, and reported themselves to the British Consul. Their story contains contradictions and must consequently be taken for what it is worth. The following is what they are reported to have stated:—The *Nanchow* went down at 9 a.m. on Friday, the accident being caused by a smash up in the engine room, some part of the machinery having gone through the bottom of the ship. No one on board, but the Captain, officers and engineers, knew what had happened, till the last moment. Then the three men and some twenty others got into one of the ship's boats. When the vessel sank one of the deckhouses floated off and with it the wife of the chief engineer and three Chinese. The boat went alongside the house and took off the Chinese, but left the engineer's wife because she was dead. Other natives floated about and were picked up by fishermen. The men in the boat being also taken ashore by fishermen, so that some fifty persons in all are known to have been saved; the fate of the others being unknown. The *compradore* said that when the captain found the vessel was going down, he retired to his cabin and shot himself.

The following is from the *Daily Press* of 15th instant:—

Two of the survivors of the *Nanchow* arrived here yesterday morning (14th inst.) by the *Formosa*, and from them some further particulars relating to the loss of that vessel have been learned. One of the men belonged to the crew of the vessel, the other was one of the *compradore's* staff. They state that at midnight, after leaving Hongkong, the vessel sprang a leak somewhere in the engine room and the pumps were set to work. After working for some time the pumps broke down, and about 4 a.m. sail was set and an attempt made in this manner to reach land. The steamer continued to fill rapidly and orders were given to lower the boats. According to their account five or six boats were lowered, and the Chinese began to crowd into them. Of these boats all except one either went to pieces in the water or sank, being overcrowded. The remaining boat containing thirty Chinese, including the two from whom this information has been gleaned, managed to reach the shore in safety. Twenty more were picked up by fishing junks and were also put on shore. The survivors state that more might have been saved had the junks come nearer the vessel, but they were afraid to do so in consequence of the heavy sea that was then running. Several junks approached the vessel within what they considered a safe distance and called out to those on board to jump into the sea and they would pick them up, but this the passengers were naturally loth to do. After the boats had left with as

many as could crowd into them, those remaining on board, including a large number of natives and all the European officers, were without any means whatever of getting on shore and perished when the ill-fated vessel foundered. The fifty who were saved, as has been already mentioned, made their way overland at Swatow, which they reached on Tuesday last.

When the survivors landed near Cupchi the local military mandarin sent some braves to escort them to Swatow and protect them on the way. Amongst the survivors one, named Lum San, had succeeded in saving his wife and family, six in all. The passengers included thirty-three men sent up by the agents as a crew for the steamer *Chiao*, which had been chartered by the owners of the *Nanchow*, and which was to be met at Swatow. Out of these thirty-three men, only one, belonging to the *compradore's* staff, was saved.

Another survivor accounts for the wreck by stating that the propeller broke and striking the sternpost carried away part of it. The vessel then filled rapidly and went down by the stern. What has been suggested, and what seems more than probable, is that when the vessel became in serious danger, the Chinese on board took charge, all discipline, with so few Europeans on board to maintain it, came to an end, and it became a matter of *sauve qui peut*. At any rate it should be said that it does not appear from any account that the Europeans on board showed any haste to save their own lives at the risk of the rest on board. In addition to the names already given of the 6 Europeans who were lost, must be mentioned that of Mrs. Hamilton, wife of the Chief Engineer, who was on board.

EXTENSIVE FIRE IN HONGKONG.

A serious fire occurred early on the morning of the 10th at No. 9, Queen's Road, Central, the ground floor of which was occupied by Messrs. S. J. David & Co., the first floor by Messrs. Reuter, Brockelmann & Co., and the top floor by the Panjom Mining Co. and Mr. J. F. Lemm, architect. Only nine months ago the same place was threatened by a fire which fortunately was checked before any considerable damage was done, but on this occasion the flames were not subdued until the house had been almost completely burnt out. About six o'clock yesterday morning the alarm was given at No. 5 Fire Station, and the brigade turned out in response with praiseworthy promptitude. When the scene of the outbreak was reached the upper stories were discovered to be enveloped in smoke and it was pretty evident that a firm hold had already been obtained on the premises. Before the firemen obtained control the two upper floors had become a mass of fire and soon after seven o'clock the roof fell in. For a little while it appeared certain that the whole building would be destroyed, but plenty of water being at hand the outbreak was kept within the limits of the two top stories, and the ground floor, except by water, was uninjured. It appears that the alarm was first given by the cook of Mr. Lemm, who occupied the corner rooms facing Ice House lane on the top floor. He was aroused just before six o'clock and upon opening his door found the place full of smoke. With no little difficulty he was able to assist his wife down the stairs, in a haste which permitted of no clothes or valuables being saved. Subsequently he returned and managed to rescue several books from his office adjoining. With such rapidity did the fire assert itself, however, that no attempt could be made to take away any of the books and papers from the other offices, and they have all perished except a few recovered in a damaged condition. In the Panjom Company's offices were the books of several Masonic lodges, in the keeping of Mr. Gourdin, all of which have been lost. The fire is supposed to have

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originated in a room upon the second storey where a beam under the fireplace was found to be smouldering on Saturday afternoon. It was extinguished, to all appearances at the time, but the subsequent disastrous outbreak points to the fact that it must have still been burning and that it was the actual cause of the destruction. The offices and rooms occupied by Messrs. Reuter, Brockelmann & Co., the Punjom Co., and Mr. Lemm were all burnt out, and the premises completely gutted. The ground floor was utilised as an opium godown, and most of the opium was removed in safety, though some of it was damaged by water. The owners of the premises are Messrs. E. D. Sassoon & Co. The damage is covered by insurance except so far as the loss of books and documents is concerned. An enquiry will be held at the magistracy this morning, when the evidence of several Chinese servants living on the premises will be taken.

The above particulars are taken from the *Daily Press*. The *China Mail* mentions that on the ground floor "a large quantity of opium was destroyed, most of which was saved." It adds that Messrs. Reuter, Brockelmann & Co. were insured with one of the companies for which they are agents, for \$45,000. The *Hongkong Telegraph* adds:—A rough estimate of damage puts down the building itself (all insured) at \$50,000; goods in godown, damaged by water (insured) \$5,000; office fittings, etc. (uninsured) \$5,000; and papers lost. (uninsured) \$20,000. Of course, it is difficult to represent the monetary loss caused by the destruction of important books; but the figures given show as nearly as possible the amount of inconvenience involved besides actual loss of dollars and cents.

THE GREAT EARTHQUAKE IN JAPAN.

The following account of his experiences has been kindly written for the *North-China Daily News* by an American traveller who was at Shinjichu's Hotel, Nagoya, on the morning of the 28th October last. Its interest will much more than compensate for its being rather late in making its appearance:—

At 6.40, on the morning of 28th October, Nagoya was a fair and goodly city: at 6.41 it was a place of desolation and dismay, for in that brief interval the earthquake had slain its thousands and wrecked their homes by tens of thousands.

It was preceded by a low heavy rumbling, which woke me from a sound sleep. Looking at my watch I noted the time, also that in five seconds there was a sharp shock; windows rattled, furniture was knocked about and houses were perceptibly shaken. After a lull of five seconds there came a heavier shock which made the buildings stagger, and the floors rock: my bed shook so that I could scarcely hold on to its iron bars, while outside was heard the crash of falling tiles and houses. There was no question now as to the gravity of the situation and with beating heart I sat bolt upright, watching, waiting and thinking: that was a long five seconds, at the end of which the third shock burst upon us with the fury of a whirlwind. If, in the second shock, the buildings staggered, they were now shaken as the storm at sea shakes a tiny boat; timbers cracked and parted, chimneys came tumbling down, daylight streamed universally in through great cracks in the walls; walls themselves were thrown down, houses fell crashing into the street, people under them, people in them; there were cries and groans from the wounded and the dying, then a long interval of silence, for death and destruction had done their work. Just at this time, my guide who had a room on the floor below, came tumbling upstairs and with ghastly face asked me what to do? "Do," said I, "get into your clothes and get out of this place before we're buried alive." So we dressed with lightning speed, picked our way

through the debris, found some remnants of cold meat and rice, and two bottles of soda water and sallied forth. I had with me in addition my family photos, my banker's letter of credit, a pair of extra socks and a mackintosh; the rest of my gear I bequeathed for the time being or for all time, as the case might be, to the earthquake.

The house we left was a sorry spectacle. Part of the front and side had been thrown out into the street, walls had been wrenched apart, beams disjointed, floors canted, stairways "skewed"; while furniture, crockery, bottles, *et id omne genus* had been thrown helter-skelter about the rooms; but around and about our resting place the destruction had been even greater; godowns or warehouses on the one side had been partially or wholly wrecked, while diagonally across the street, on the other side, a row of houses had been so completely demolished that you could have used the debris for firewood. How great the loss of life in these cases it was impossible to tell; many buildings were so completely wrecked that escape would have been well-nigh a miracle, and rescue, even if attempted, a matter of long hours; but the people were so thoroughly frightened and recurring shocks so frequent that every house was now deserted, all survivors having now congregated in the few broad streets, the open places, and outlying fields. The main street, over a mile in length and perhaps a hundred and fifty feet wide, was absolutely crowded, because comparatively safe, so on each side, just beyond the reach of falling tiles or walls that still remained intact, these poor people had thrown their mats or bedding or whatever had been saved, and where possible they protected these with cloths hung between corner posts and a roof of bamboo or mats. These were shelter for all people during the first day and night, as those who had houses even dared not venture into them, but to thousands whose little homes were utterly destroyed they remained, and still remain, the only shelter possible.

If, in this great public thoroughfare, it was so crowded and full of moving incident, you can imagine the condition of those narrow tortuous streets of which the city is so full; passage through some was completely blocked by fallen houses, while in others the debris was so great that one had repeatedly to clamber over great heaps or make a long circuit around; some houses had so far escaped that by propping them up with poles they could still stand upright, and again, strange to say, there were long rows of houses that seemed to have suffered scarcely any damage whatever. Speaking of this afterward to Professor Milne, of Tokio—a most distinguished authority—he remarked that many of these houses withstood the shock because instead of being in line with the vibrations, that is, north and south or east and west, they faced diagonally—northeast and southwest, thus offering greater resistance.

These narrow streets however were largely deserted, for not only were tiles falling continually from the roofs but the recurring shocks were likely at any moment to topple over such houses as were still standing. Along the river's edge and on the sides of the canals it was a sad but curious sight, for here houses had been literally shaken into the water and seemed in many places like lumber yards which had been overturned: equally curious but altogether different was the sight in the outlying fields, for here people had congregated by the thousand, taking with them their few household remnants and seeming, for the time, utterly bewildered: yet among the thousands whom I saw in that and following days there were scarcely any who in look or manner showed any sign of being disheartened: on the contrary, they laughed and chatted and lounged about just as in ordinary times. One thing alone seemed of

vital interest and that the rumour that we were to have at sundown and at midnight two tremendous shocks. As this meant practical annihilation we felt interested to know whence the rumour came and whether or not it was based on seismological authority, so I posted off to the observatory, where I was fortunate enough to find a director who had studied under Milne at Tokio and who spoke English. He at once told me that the rumour aforesaid had no foundation in fact and that although shocks would continue for a long time they were likely to be less violent rather than more. After getting practical information as to the safest part of a house during a shock and how to deport one's self satisfactorily (?) on such an occasion I departed somewhat cheered but uncertain where to spend the night. My list of acquaintances was absolutely nil and everybody was living *al fresco*. Finally I thought me of a cloisonné manufacturer whose damaged stock I had inspected in my rounds and with whom I had condoled in all sincerity; he had betaken himself with his family, workmen and wares to what was truly called a place of shelter, i.e. a large open plot back of his house where beyond the reach of falling tiles or walls the usual *tatami*, of mats, cloths and bamboo roof, had been erected. Having intimated my desire for "a lodge in some vast wilderness" he good-naturedly replied that his brother had such a place and would be glad to accommodate me, so at dusk I presented myself at the "lodge" where I found his brother, his workmen, and their families all on the point of retiring. The process was simple, each one wrapping a *futon* or Japanese comforter around him and lying down on the matting next his neighbour. A place of honour was reserved for me in the centre and at the outset was long enough for me to move my legs and arms about very comfortably, but towards morning these petty distinctions were done away with, and my neighbours pillowed themselves comfortably on all parts of my body *sans peur et sans reproche*. Just before going to sleep, the night patrol came along and told us that we must look out for fire and thieves, the latter having all escaped or been let loose during the heavy shocks; so there was a trinity in respect of which there was no unbelief, but which added nothing to our comfort or satisfaction.

There were two severe shocks during the night, both accompanied by a low distinct rumbling which shook the earth where we lay; but as no buildings could tumble down on us and our only danger was in being swallowed up by an opening and closing of the earth we calmly ignored them and went on with our slumbers. At break of day we throw off our *futons*, took a primitive wash at the well and parted, my friends to their work and I to the hotel to see what was left and get a further supply of cold meat and rice. I found everything in confusion but intact, and after breakfasting with Spartan simplicity commenced my wanderings, searching at the same time for a means of escape from the city. The railway to and from Nagoya was closed for miles, bridges being down and the track *hors de combat* from its struggle with the earthquake. Two sprained ankles forbade going on foot and so jinrickshas were the only alternative though held at earthquake prices. I succeeded finally in engaging four, two for myself and guide and two for luggage, and arranged to start early the next morning. As for the night I concluded to risk spending it at the hotel, but in a room on the ground floor next to the entrance; this would enable me in case of a heavy shock to run quickly to a small open place which was comparatively safe, as most of the surrounding buildings, had already tumbled down. Just as I was about to retire Mr. Pownall, the well known engineer of the Tokaido Railway, sent in his card and we were soon engaged in discussing the ravages of the earthquake and the lessons to be learned from it in the way of constructing buildings, bridges, etc. One could not

fail to note that all structures and objects had been damaged in proportion to their rigidity or escaped injury in proportion to their elasticity; hence the so-called foreign or brick buildings had totally collapsed. The Post Office for example had been first rent asunder and then literally tumbled in upon itself; the stout lanterns of the temples had been toppled over or set askew. Next in order of damage came the heavy tiled buildings, then those with thatched roofs, while those which suffered least had light shingle or bamboo roofs. Thus the Japanese system of construction was largely vindicated, though it was evident that mortices and tenons had not been sufficiently deep and long, and that the shrinkage of a dry climate had aggravated this weakness. In a heavy shock, therefore, the walls were pulled apart with comparative ease and the heavy tiled roof was practically invited to fall in; this however was a matter of detail which did not contradict the Japanese theory of elasticity, and, as Professor Milne wisely stated afterward, a wicker basket tumbling down the heights of Fuji will receive no damage, whereas a solid or heavy object of the same bulk will be shattered to atoms. Before going to bed I sketched out my line of retreat in case of a heavy shock and it was agreed that we should both make use of it, but although awaked by a shock at two p.m. we concluded to stay in bed and take our chances. Morningsaw me up and away with four jinrichas. In the main street people were just turning out of their improvised *tatami*, washing and tea making. Approaching the bridge *en route* to the Castle, I found great cracks at each end and was obliged to get out and walk while my men lifted and carried the richas across; this on account of the insecure condition of the bridge. Passing now through the Castle grounds we saw fresh evidence of the earthquake's power. Walls which had stood the shock of centuries were cracked and riven for hundreds of yards, while here and there the whole face of the wall had been thrown aside leaving nothing but bare earth. Thence to the river on Nagoya's outskirts was by a long straggling street which had suffered much damage. Three houses out of four were partly or wholly destroyed, and in most of the former wounded people were being cared for as tenderly as circumstances would permit. Would this were all, but the stench that came up from piles of burning *débris* and the long still objects, covered with a sheet, told too plainly of those who had passed over to "the great majority." Arriving at the bridge, which was of wood built on piles, I found it canted on one side to the water's edge while on the other it retained its original position: this gave it a steep slant like the roof of a shed and brought out all one's acrobatic powers in crossing. To Kusatsu, where the highway met the railroad, was a distance of five miles and this was a repetition of the ghastliness and ruin in the outskirts of Nagoya. Here too the road was blocked in so many places that richas had to be carried bodily and I had to climb or crawl over the *débris*. This brought on a crisis with the coolies and although they had agreed to carry me to Ogaki, twenty-two miles distant, they now refused to go a step further. Vain was all reasoning, remonstrance, coaxing, threatening or even bribing; they would not go on. What to do was a conundrum. I could not walk, and richas were the only means of conveyance; if money would not tempt these men, how could it others? Just at this moment my friend Pownall put in an appearance seated on a trolley or small hand car: one behind carried his men and luggage. To state the difficulty was to solve it. "Jump on," he said and I jumped, knowing that I should not only get out of this hole but have the rare advantage of inspecting the roadway and bridges with a man of first rate ability. The road bed proved a veritable curiosity; cracks

and fissures of all sizes ran along it, across it, and in the fields alongside; some were six inches in width, some sixty; some a few inches in depth, some beyond measurement; through some had oozed out sand; through others volcanic mud; while here and there little geysers had formed and occasionally spouted hot water. Rails were twisted and turned, mostly like the letter S. Then again there were depressions in the road so that it went up and down like a switchback railway. Bridges! well, what shall I say of the bridges? Splendid structures they had been at one moment, utterly useless the next, for as Mr. Pownall well said, "We can make our calculations for weight, wind and water, but for subterranean forces, no!" Those spanning the Kasegawa and Nagaragawa were the most important and had suffered the greatest damage. The former rested on massive brick piers solid downward to the water's edge, at which point, in the middle of each, was a small elliptical arch. Here, in most cases, was the line of fracture which ran horizontally through the pier and the force of the earthquake had been such that the north to south shock had lifted the bridge off its feet, as it were, in one direction while the east to west shock had lifted it in another; the girders and overhead supporters were mainly intact, there being, in many cases, not a rivet started. After a careful examination of all points from the river below, Mr. Pownall and I crossed the bridge on its road bed and though it shook uncomfortably in some places we got over without difficulty. The Nagaragawa bridge was constructed entirely of iron, its piers being hollow tubular columns filled with cement. This had collapsed utterly, the piers snapping off like pipe stems and sheering to one side so that the upper parts hung in mid-air supported by the girders. The road bed was a series of drops from one pier to another, and altogether it was a sorry sight for the engineer who had skilfully constructed and been rightly proud of it. So the day went on, the interest being heightened when we passed through the towns of Gifu and Ogaki. Terrible as the destruction had been in Nagoya it was worse here, for in addition to this locality having been the probable centre of the earthquake's disturbance, fire had afterwards set in and made it a very wilderness. War, pestilence and famine could have done no more, and as we gazed on the charred and blackened ruins of what, so little time before, had been happy thriving towns, we could but hope that those outside the circle, and especially in foreign lands, might realise but a tithe of the misfortune, so that help, swift and abundant, might be sent to the unfortunate. Late in the evening we arrived at Tarui, a point between which and Kioto trains were still running. Midnight brought us to the latter, and though Kioto was within the deadly circle and our hotel a brick building of three stories, we were too tired to be anxious even and had a long restful sleep. Next day, however, and always afterward in Japan, I examined all stairways, exits, and open places about the hotel, never knowing how soon I might be called on to use them, and I soon grew to feel a hearty sympathy for the old lady who when told that presence of mind was a rare good thing in a railway accident, assented heartily but remarked that "absence of body was better."

ROWLANDS' MACASSAR OIL preserves and strengthens the hair, prevents it falling off or turning grey, and is the best brillianline for everybody's use, being not too greasy or too drying; also sold in a golden colour for fair haired ladies and children; bottles 3s. 6d., 7s., 10s. 6d. ROWLANDS' ECKONIA is a pure and fragrant toilet powder, in three tints—white, rose, and cream; 1s. and 2s. 6d. boxes. Ask any dealer in perfumery for ROWLANDS' articles, of 20, Hatton Garden, London.

7ja-93 67

EIFFEL METALLIC BRIDGES FOR CHINA.

Our compatriot, M. Griffon, has just been charged by the Viceroy Li Hung-chang to build a series of metallic bridges on the railway now in course of construction from Tientsin to Shanhaikuan. M. Griffon is well known in China by his *chef d'œuvre*, the work at Port Arthur, and the Viceroy, who has at last fully made up his mind that the Manchuria railway, which is to be equally a commercial and a strategic line, is to be built, has determined to employ on its construction all the best talent at his disposition; and he is known to be a good judge of men. The director-general is Mr. Pethick; Mr. Kinder, who is held in the highest consideration at Tientsin, is chief engineer; Germany is to provide the rails, and M. Eiffel's works are to furnish this summer 42 spans of metallic bridging, of a total length of nearly half a mile. It is difficult for one who is not an expert to write sufficiently of what M. Eiffel has done in this line, but I should like to say a word about his Garabit viaduct, one of the marvels of modern industry, and one of the most beautiful pieces of ironwork in the world. Its total length is 564 *mètres*, of which 448 *mètres* are iron work. It rests on eight piers, the highest 89.64 *mètres*, and the principal arch is a parabolic curve of which the chord is 165 *mètres*. Its dimensions make it the most important work of the kind yet constructed in France. The Viceroy Li, who is much interested in all the products of modern industry, and is at the same time of a very economical turn of mind, has deemed it advantageous to consult M. Griffon as to the firm to whom the order was to be given, while at the same time yielding with a good grace to the reiterated representations of M. Lemaire, the French Minister at Peking, and M. Bezaure, the French Consul at Tientsin; two functionaries who, it is only just to say, are really solicitous to do what they can for their compatriots in China.

HENRI BROYOS.

NON-CHOPPED COTTON GOODS.

The following important extract is from the *New York Journal of Commerce* of the 9th ultimo:—

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Report of the Committee on Foreign Commerce in Regard to the Complaint of the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce as to the Fraudulent Stamping of Cotton Goods Imported in that Country—Resolutions Adopted.

A regular monthly meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was held Thursday at the rooms of the Chamber, 32 Nassau street. Herman O. Armour, William H. Hollister and William Lummis were elected members of the Chamber to fill vacancies in the membership. James S. T. Strahan, William H. Lyon, A. Foster Higgins, William L. Strong and William H. Parsons were elected as delegates to represent the Chamber at the twenty-second annual meeting of the National Board of Trade, to be held in Washington, commencing on Wednesday, Jan 27th.

Mr. A. Foster Higgins, chairman on the Harbour and Shipping Committee, was authorised to sign, on behalf of the Chamber, the memorial addressed to the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, urging the necessary appropriation for the continuance of the breakwaters now in course of construction on Long Island Sound.

Mr. Francis B. Thurber, chairman of the Committee on Foreign Commerce and the Revenue Laws, to whom was referred the letter of the Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce in regard to the fraudulent stamping of cotton goods imported into that country, submitted the following report on the subject:

To the Chamber of Commerce:

The Committee on Foreign Commerce and the Revenue Laws respectfully report upon the following communication of the Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce:

Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce,

Shanghai, 8th Sept., 1891.

SIR,—The practice of exporting unchopped cotton goods both of American and English manufacture into China, for the purpose of having them stamped in this country with well-known chops, has existed, to a more or less extent, for some time, but lately it has so increased that it has become a very serious injury to legitimate trade, and this Chamber feels strongly that some steps should be taken to put a stop to such objectionable proceedings.

The non-chopped goods are sent by the Chinese merchant to the river and northern ports and large inland centres, where the packages are opened and the pieces stamped with exact imitations of well-known chops, the property of foreign firms, and then sold to the unsuspecting retail dealers and consumers as the genuine goods.

Owing to the fact that there is no law in China by which trademarks can be registered, it is almost impossible to prevent these frauds, or to have those who commit them punished. In a few instances the fraud has been traced to the counterfeiter and brought to the notice of the Chinese authorities, who issued a proclamation to the effect that such counterfeited goods would be liable to confiscation.

This has had no effect in checking the practice (which, as I have said, is very much on the increase) and it is with the desire of getting at the source of the trouble that this Chamber addresses you, in the hope of obtaining your influential co-operation to that end. It is at the same time addressing a similar communication to the Chamber of Commerce at Manchester, and also to the Piece Goods Guild at this port.

It must be evident that if this practice is continued it will do incalculable harm to the majority of firms, both on your side and on this, who have for years past been to a considerable expense and trouble in establishing trade-marks of their own, and it seems to this Chamber that the exportation of non-chopped goods, so evidently for the fraudulent purpose above described, is such an injury to honest trading that there must be some means by which it can be prevented.

It is in the hope, therefore, that your Chamber may take such measures as may appear to you the most efficacious to accomplish this purpose, that I bring these facts to your notice: and, in concluding, I would say that this Chamber feels confident that if those firms in the United States who have so far executed orders for such goods had been cognisant of the fraudulent purpose for which the goods were destined, they would have declined the orders.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed) John G. Purdon, Chairman.

To the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, New York.

The subject is an intricate one, involving as it does the laws and customs of two or more nations, and commercial practices which as yet are not dealt with by the laws of either nation.

In practice it is counterfeiting, on the one hand, and, in effect, it is the stealing of the property of honest manufacturers on the other. Inferior goods are palmed off upon consumers, and both the property and reputation of honest manufacturers are deliberately stolen.

To remedy this deplorable state of things in the case under consideration it would seem that there must be an active co-operation between the public authorities in China to punish counterfeiting, and the honest manufacturers of England and the United States, in refusing to furnish the counterfeiters with materials.

Any manufacturer who sells his goods for export without brand, either knowingly or unwittingly, aids the counterfeiters.

Whether the selling of goods without the manufacturers' brand or mark can be prevented by law in England and the United States is a question which your committee are not able to decide. But it is plain that commercial public opinion can do much to expose and ostracise commercial practices which amount to manufacturing and dealing in counterfeiters' materials.

In conclusion your committee offer the following resolutions:

Resolved. That the interest of the people of consuming countries demands the enactment and enforcement of laws which will protect them against counterfeiters in the various branches of manufacture; and that our Secretary of State be and is hereby requested to call the attention of foreign governments to the importance of this subject.

Resolved. That the interests of all manufacturing countries, and communities, which desire a good reputation for their goods, lie in the direction of common honesty and the discouragement of the business of counterfeiters, by refusing to furnish goods without brand or mark, which may be used by unprincipled dealers as counterfeiters.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

(Signed) F. B. THURBER.

JAMES MCCREERY.

STEPHEN W. CAREY,

Majority of Committee on Foreign Commerce and the R. Laws.

New York, Dec. 2nd, 1891.

The resolution was unanimously carried.

NOTES FROM NATIVE PAPERS.

Shên-pao.

While a Manchu official of the Chinkiang garrison camp was looking over his premises one night, very late, he found some sparks of fire in the courtyard. He extinguished them and retired to rest. Next morning he discovered that the sparks were from a burning fuse attached to a large package of gunpowder which some malicious person had placed in the courtyard with the intention of blowing up the building. The matter was reported, but up to the present no trace of the miscreant has been found.

On Sunday last a number of Japanese resident in Shanghai held a gathering in Mr. Chang's garden and spent a very pleasant afternoon.

In Ningpo two fires occurred at the same time on the night of the 13th instant. The whole city was in uproar and the firemen had to exert themselves to their utmost before the progress of the flames could be arrested.

Five male prisoners were executed and one female prisoner suffered death by the lingering process, for murdering her husband, at Soochow on the 13th instant.

The four assistants of Mr. Mason, Yang Ta-ch'uan, Chu Ch'uan-san, Chu Ch'uan-ting, and Tu Ku-fu have confessed their complicity with the foreign conspirator. The case will now be reported to the Nanking Viceroy for decision.

The commander of the naval forces in Tanchow Fu died of old age on the night of the 5th instant.

Hupao.

The seals of public officials will be closed on the 19th of this moon and reopened on the 19th of the 1st moon.

The Customs Taotai and the Tribute Rice Taotai will start for Nanking on an official visit to the Viceroy on the 18th inst., after performing the ceremonies of closing the seal of office.

Shên-pao.

On account of numerous robberies which have occurred in Canton, the Viceroy and the Governor have temporarily taken away the buttons of several officials. Should

they be still dilatory in arresting the culprits, steps will be taken to have them cashiered.

Hupao.

Street lighting by electricity is being experimentally tried in the city of Canton. It is found that a ten-candle-lamp burning from dusk till midnight costs \$0.60 per month; a sixteen-candle-lamp \$1.00. The street lamps for the first month are lighted free of charge, so as to attract customers.

H.E. the Viceroy of Canton has made an inspection of the coast fortifications and garrison troops. The arsenal and powder factories were also carefully examined as to their contents and their working.

The Kiangsu Taotai for tribute rice has arrived at this port and has taken up his headquarters inside the city to inspect the rice before its shipment in the spring.

During the recent raid by the aborigines of Formosa a Chinese captain and a few soldiers fell into an ambush. They fought with great bravery, and the captain, though severely wounded, would not yield. Finally he placed himself at the head of his few remaining troopers and made a desperate charge, hoping to cut his way through the enemy, but a bullet pierced his breast and killed him on the spot. Then a bloody struggle took place over the body, which was ultimately abandoned by the savages on the arrival of reinforcements for the Government troops. H.E. Governor Shao, feeling deep regret over the loss of so valiant a soldier, bestowed 10,000 taels on the captain's family. This generous and munificent act has won the hearts of all the troops.

Shên-pao.

Our Nanking correspondent writes us the following:—Li Hung 李鴻章, son of the late general Li Sze-chung 李世忠, who is under arrest on a charge of being implicated in the doings of a secret society, as already reported, is an expectant Taotai in rank and held till recently a military command. Tired of official life he resigned his commission and lived a retired life in Ngankin on his patrimony, which is considerable. Wan Sung-ting 萬松亭 a Yau-chow man, was charged with being a member of the Kolao Society. He was sent to Nanking and when about to suffer capital punishment for his crime, denied that his name was on the list of members, but said he knew those members he had served, and that he would willingly turn state's evidence. During his examination Wan stated that Li Hung was one of the chief leaders; and the charge he reiterated. On the strength of this accusation Li Hung entered the city gates a prisoner, closely guarded. The day following Li Hung's arrival, the Nanking Provincial Treasurer assembled several expectant Taotais in full dress in the court of the examination Hall and placed Li Hung among them. Wan Sung-ting was summoned and asked whether he knew Li Hung personally. He replied in the affirmative, adding that he had served Li Hung for many years. After being warned of the consequences of a mistake, Wan was confronted with the assembled Taotais and requested to point out Li Hung. After searching long and hard Wan said the accused was not among them. Whereupon Li Hung stepped out of the ranks and asked whether he recognised him. The answer was in the negative, and Li Hung cried out, "I am he whom you accuse, Li Hung in person." Wan was astounded, hung his head in silence and muttered an excuse. The Provincial Treasurer ordered Wan Sung-ting to be placed in irons, and reported the proceedings to the Viceroy.

TO DARKEN GREY HAIR.—Lockyer's Sulphur Hair Restorer is the quickest, best, safest; costs less, effects more than any other. The colour produced is most natural. Lockyer's Sulphur is the only English Hair Restorer universally sold. (3)

Law Reports.

H.B.M.'s POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, 18th January.
Before G. JAMIESON, Esq.,
Assistant Judge.

R. v. OLSEN.

Oscar Olsen, quartermaster of the *Glenavon*, was charged with being drunk, assaulting and wounding a coolie named Chang Tso-sai by striking him on the eye. He was also charged with damaging a jinricsha and assaulting several coolies at the same time and place, i.e., about noon on the 16th, at the Hongkew Wharf.

Chang Tso-sai deposed that he was at work placing a gangway between the P. and O. steamer *Canton* and the wharf. Prisoner came up and pushed him, without any provocation. Complainant walked away, but prisoner came after him and struck him in the eye, having a brick or stone in his hand at the time.

Inspector Kluth produced a certificate from Dr. Reid, who stated that the complainant was suffering from "a wound on the outer side of the left eye which extended half way along the upper and lower lid, and which appeared to have been caused by a blow with some hard body, such as a stone or a piece of wood. The wound required at least three stitches to bring the edges of it together. The lids were very much swollen, so that it was difficult to see the eye. It was found to be uninjured, and the power of vision also seemed to be unaffected. From the position of the wound it is evident that the eye had a very narrow escape of being destroyed."

Prisoner, who had marks on his face, urged that he came to the wharf in a jinricsha and tendered the coolie 10 cents. The coolie demanded 50 cents, and when prisoner refused to give that amount, the coolie and several others with bamboos set upon him and struck him twice in the face. Prisoner took one of the bamboos in self defence, and a comrade coming up, they drove the coolies away. His comrade could prove that prisoner was not in the jinricsha from 9 till 12.

The jinricsha coolie deposed that he was hired by accused from 9 till 12, and when witness asked for 50 cents accused took up a bamboo and began to lay about him. Witness had received no payment at all.

Accused denied this statement, and said he only took the jinricsha from the Travellers to the wharf.

Philip Chambers, assistant wharfinger, deposed that he noticed a disturbance on the wharf. He saw prisoner run up to a sampanman who was leaning over the rails, and strike him in the face. Prisoner then assaulted two or three other coolies, and finally ran up to a cook-stall and hit the proprietor over the head with his tray. Witness, who was accompanied by the chief wharfinger, Mr. Hodgson, went up to prisoner and advised him to go on board his ship. Prisoner then suddenly turned round, and, with a large stone in his hand, struck Chang Tso-sai on the eye. Witness considered prisoner acted with wanton cruelty, none of the Chinese offering any resistance.

Police Sergeant Walker deposed that he saw prisoner take a bamboo from a coolie and strike a peanut-hawker on the head. Prisoner then went on board his ship.

His Worship described prisoner's conduct as monstrous, and sentenced him to go to prison for two months and pay the complainant Chang \$10.

Prisoner—Won't you hear my witness, sir?

His Worship—Why didn't you say you had a witness before?

A comrade of the prisoner was then called, and deposed that prisoner went on shore at 9 o'clock and returned to the ship at 10, when witness joined him. They went to the Travellers, where they stayed

till 11.30. Accused then took a jinricsha to the wharf, witness following on foot. When witness reached the wharf, he found a crowd of coolies with bamboos, and prisoner bleeding from the face.

His Worship said that had nothing to do with the assault on Chang, which took place after the dispute with the jinricsha coolie and was entirely unprovoked. Accused must go to prison.

20th January.

R. v. COUVEN AND OTHERS.

Frank Couven, Jas. D. Stevens and Andrew Hennessy, able seamen, British barque *Chasca*, were charged with being absent without leave since the 19th.

The case was proved by the master, who said the men had been absent three days on a prior occasion.

Stevens asked to be discharged, saying he wanted to better himself; but he was reminded by the Court that it took two to break as well as to make a contract.

Ordered to forfeit two days' pay and to be sent on board the ship.

R. v. SMITH.

J. H. Smith appeared in answer to a summons charging him with having assaulted a Japanese woman named Fuma in the Nanjing Road on the 15th.

Defendant denied the charge, and complainant not appearing, his Worship dismissed the case.

IT RECALLS THE BLIZZARD.

In March, 1888, the great blizzard in America almost extinguished the city of New York. The like of it was never before seen. The snow completely stopped all local traffic. Not a horse or a wheel could move. All the telegraph lines leading into the city were prostrated, and for two or three days the people of Boston and New York communicated with each other by way of London by means of the Atlantic cables. Thus messages intended for persons three hundred miles distant were sent six thousand miles, crossing the ocean twice.

An incident which recalls this experience to the writer's mind happened a short time ago here in England. Suppose we let the gentleman interested tell his own story. He says: "I have suffered more or less from indigestion and dyspepsia all my life. I had a bad taste in the mouth, pain after eating, a poor appetite, and sour stomach. My tongue was coated, and my mouth constantly filled with a watery fluid. No matter what I ate, however light, it disagreed with me and gave me pain. I had fullness of the chest, and pain at my side, with a miserable, low, dull feeling. From time to time I consulted a doctor who gave me medicines, but they did very little good. The doctor said that the coating of my stomach was disordered, and the mucous membrane was inflamed. In 1877 I received a pamphlet from New York telling of a medicine called Mother Seigel's

Curative Syrup, and of the extraordinary cures it had effected, so I procured a supply, and after taking the first I felt better, and by the time I had taken four bottles more, I was completely cured, and have been in good health, as regards the indigestion, ever since. Having studied the practice of herbs for many years, I was in the habit of treating people for erysipelas and other complaints, and was frequently consulted by people in the district, so after my remarkable cure I was so impressed with the merits of Seigel's Syrup, that I procured a large supply of the medicine, and recommended it to all who were suffering, and people came from far and near for it. I may mention that on a Sunday my house was besieged by miners from Coal Pit Heath, and others from a distance. On every hand I heard nothing but the loudest praise and of the cures it effected, and the fame of this medicine was spread throughout the West of England with no other advertising than one party telling another of the benefit they had derived from this wonderful medicine. I wish every one to know of this, and if by publishing this statement it will help others who may be suffering as I was, it will afford me pleasure."

The letter from which the foregoing is an extract is signed Moses Godwin, Old Sodbury (Sodbury), Glos, and is dated April 9th, 1891. He is a farmer.

The reader will notice that while the headquarters for the sale of Mother Seigel's Syrup is universally known to be in London, by a strange chance Mr. Godwin's first information concerning it came from America, three thousand miles away, which recalls the incident of the American blizzard above narrated, and also shows that the fame and usefulness of this medicine extends to all civilised countries.

Mr. Benjamin Edgerton, grocer and provision dealer, Plat Lane, Whixall, Whitchurch, Salop, says: "While living with Mr. Roberts, Fens Wood Farm, I first began to feel a dull heavy weight at my side, and noticed a bad taste in the mouth with foul stomach and uncomfortable feeling after eating. I had no appetite, and when I sat down to the table I could not touch the food. I had a good deal of pain and noise in the head, and could not sleep for it. I was not fit for heavy work, and could only do light jobs about the farm. After cutting a hedge I would go quite faint, and had to sit down, and felt so much depressed I could have cried. Having always been such a strong man I took it badly to be reduced to such a weak state. I took all kinds of physic and saw a doctor, but his medicine only eased me for a bit, and then I was worse than before. I went on in this way for over a year, when a servant that came to live at Mr. Roberts' told me of a medicine called Mother Seigel's Syrup. She had heard a gentleman talking about it in the railway carriage, and he praised it so much that I thought I would try it. After I had taken two bottles my food did me good, and I gained strength, and by persevering with the syrup I soon got as strong as ever, and have never ailed anything since."

(2) 15, 22 & 29ja 338

ROBINSON & CLEAVER'S
PARIS PRIZE MEDAL IRISH

CAMBRIC	Per doz.	IRISH	Per doz.
Children's	1/3	Fish Napkins, 2s. 6d. per dozen,	
Ladies'	2/4	Dinner Napkins, 5s. 6d. per	
Gentlemen's	3/6	dozen. Table Cloths, 2 yards	
		square, 2s. 11d., 2½ by 3 yards,	
		5s. 11d. each; Kitchen Table	
		Cloths, 11½d. each.	
		Real Irish Linen Sheetting,	
		fully-bleached, 2 years wide, 1s.	
		1d. per yard.	
		Roller Towel-	
		ling, 3½d. per	
		yard. Surplice	
		Linen, 7d. per	
		yard. Linen Dusters, 3s. 3d.; Glass	
		Cloths, 4s. 6d. per dozen. Fine	
		Linen Diaper, 8½d. per	
		yard. Strong Huckaback Towels,	
		4s. 4d. per dozen.	

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POCKET "The Irish
Cambrics of
Robinson &
Cleaver have
a world-wide fame."—Queen.

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"The name of R. & C. is a household word."
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Embroidered Handkerchiefs, in all the latest
styles, from 1s. to 60s. each.

ROBINSON & CLEAVER,
BELFAST.

Samples and Price Lists post free to any part of the world.

TABLE AND HOUSE LINEN

Robinson & Cleaver, Belfast.

10th April, 1891.

9ja-32 53

Miscellaneous Intelligence.

BIRTHS.

On the 20th instant, at No. 6, Ningpo Road, Shanghai, the wife of T. E. TRUENMAN, of a daughter.

At Sioux City, Iowa, on the 21st Nov., 1891, the wife of CHRISTOPHER MÖLLER, of a son.

DEATHS.

At Bournemouth, on the 16th inst., KATE STUART, the beloved wife of James SIMPSON, late of Shanghai.

At Pagoda Anchorage, Foochow, on 16th instant, J. VAUGHAN, many years a Shanghai Pilot, aged 59 years.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.

Per str. *Ravenna*, for Marseilles—Rev. and Mrs. Turner and 2 children. For Hongkong—Messrs. Shepherd, Norris, D. E. Sassoon, Munter, Friedman, Sawyer and Tillett.

Per str. *Saghalien*, for Japan—Messrs. E. Housbery and R. Nicholson.

Per str. *Kobe Maru*, for Nagasaki—Mr. Takenouchi. For Kobe—Capt. F. R. Harbey and Mr. Geo. W. Noël. For Yokohama—Messrs. Algernon S. Rose and Liang Tsung Ching. For San Francisco—Baron R. Recum and Mr. O. Wilkens.

Per str. *Poyang*, for Hankow—Mr. Schmaeker.

Per str. *Taku*, for Chefoo—Capt. Kreidner.

Per str. *Glenaron*, for Amoy—Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Marshall.

Per str. *Taisang*, for Hongkong—Mrs. Bieber and Mr. E. W. Rice.

ARRIVED.

Per str. *Saghalien*, from Marseilles—Messrs. W. de St. Croix and Julien Wolder. From Hongkong—Mrs. Hembke, Mrs. Aquino, Messrs. Ternel, Tressilian, Leang Wanchun, S. and D. Psawamurah, Livy, Gerard and D'Souza.

Per str. *Chingtu*, from Melbourne for Shanghai—Mr. Egerton. For Japan—Mr. Hardwood.

Per str. *Yokohama Maru*, from Japan, &c.—Mrs. Rindge Perkins, Mr. and Mrs. Tookoffsky, Dr. Abercrombie, Capt. Sloss, Messrs. Kendall, H. H. Joseph, T. C. Forster, G. B. Atkinson, E. G. Schiller and S. Broadfoot.

Per str. *Dugo*, from Nagasaki—Mr. Sternberg.

Per str. *Taiwo*, from Chinkiang—Mr. Sampson.

Per str. *Kiangteen*, from Ningpo—Mrs. L. A. Gould and child.

Per str. *Haechang*, from Ningpo and Wenchow—Mrs. Lowry, child and amah.

Per str. *El Dorado*, from Chefoo—Messrs. A. Cooper and J. Hatch.

Per str. *Haeshin*, from Foochow—Messrs. de Trienant and Bolagny.

Per str. *Tatung*, from Chinkiang—Messrs. Hearson and Penniel.

Per str. *Kiangyung*, from Hankow—Mr. G. Brown.

Per str. *Yuenco*, from Hankow—Mr. Rodgers.

Per str. *Kowshing*, from Ningpo—Rev. Syms.

Per str. *Taisang*, from Canton, Hongkong and Swatow—Mr. and Mrs. Craddock.

Per str. *Nyakin*, from Chinkiang—Mr. and Mrs. Dawson and child. From Tungchow Mr. Wong.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer.	Wind.	Height of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer at 3 P.M.	Thermometer at 9 P.M.	Initials.
9 A.M.	Wind Direction	Force	Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	Max.	Min.	
Jan. 10	30.25	42.5 S.W.	42	42.5	40.0	53.0	37.0 B.
11	30.29	42.0 S.W.	3	42.0	37.0	54.0	32.0 B.
12	30.27	36.0 S.W.	3	36.0	31.5	50.0	26.0 B.
13	30.32	32.0 "	1	32.0	froz	24.0	26.0 B.
14	30.33	33.0 S.	1	33.0	26.0	54.0	27.0 C.
15	30.00	35.0 N.W.	2	35.0	32.0	49.0	25.0 B.
16	30.51	34.5 S.W.	2	34.5	froz	19.0	29.0 B.

EXPLANATION.

Initials: b, blue sky; c, clouds; f, fog; h, hail; l, lightning; m, misty (hazy); o, overcast (dull); r, rain; s, snow; t, thunder; z, calm. Force from 1 to 12, estimated.

Advertisements.

NOTICE.

QUEEN INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE undersigned, as Agents of the Queen Insurance Company, are prepared to effect Insurances on First-class Risks at lowest current rates.

FRAZAR & Co.

tf ne-a-w 1126 Shanghai, 29th Aug., 1887.

JOSEPH GILLOTT'S
STEEL PENS
-GOLD MEDAL-PARIS, 1878-

Sold by all dealers throughout the World.

These world-famous Pens are of the highest possible quality: for sixty-five years universally styled the "Best in the World."

tf 33

13th April, 1887

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THE
ANGLO-CHINESE
DATE-BLOCK

FOR

1892.

A COMPLETE

ENGLISH & CHINESE CALENDAR
IN TWO COLOURS.

Price: \$0.75 each.

NORTH-CHINA HERALD OFFICE,

2, KICKIANG ROAD,

W. BREWER,

4, NANKING ROAD.

Shanghai, 13th Oct., 1891.

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Insurance Co.

THE undersigned, having been appointed Agents of the above Corporation, are prepared to grant policies against Fire, at Current Rates.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.

Agents.

tf 47

Shanghai, 10th May 1891

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MAINTENANCE COMPANY, LIMITED,
No. 109, FARRINGTON ROAD, LONDON, E.C.

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CANADA, NEW ZEALAND, STRAITS SETTLEMENTS;
THE PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY;
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NORTH-CHINA HERALD OFFICE.
1514 Shanghai, 23rd Feb., 1891.

Scottish Union & National Insurance
Company Edinburgh & London,
FIRE AND LIFE.

ESTABLISHED 1824.

Capital £8,000,000

Invested Funds, £3,300,000. Annual
Income, £740,000.

FIRE Insurances effected at current
rates.

Terms and particulars of Life Insurances
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Agents in Shanghai.

2nd-87 390 Shanghai, 13th Aug., 1886

GUARDIAN ASSURANCE Co., OF LONDON.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1821.

Paid-up Capital £1 000,000.

THE undersigned, Agents for the above
Company, are prepared to accept
Risks against Fire at current rates.

WISNER & Co.
1045 Shanghai, 9th May, 1890.

SOUTH BRITISH FIRE & MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW ZEALAND.

THE Undersigned having been appointed
Agents for the above Company here
and at Hankow, are prepared to accept
Marine & Fire Risks at current rates.

ARNHOLD, KARBBERG & Co.,
Agents.

30th-88 2 Shanghai, 1st July, 1887.

The Royal Exchange Assurance, of London.

THE undersigned, having been appointed
Agents of the above Corporation, are
prepared to grant policies against Fire, at
Current Rates.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.

674Z 31mr Shanghai, 10th May, 1881.

THE LIVERPOOL & LONDON & GLOBE INSURANCE Co.

Capital Paid-up £ 245,000
Premium Income £1,295,000
Reserve Fund £1,500,000
Invested Funds £5,800,000
Total Assets £6,499,000

FIRE OFFICE.

POLICIES granted at current rates
to extent of £15,000 on any one first-
class Building or its contents.

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Risks accepted at REDUCED RATES.
Tables may be had on application to

TURNBULL, HOWIE & Co.,
Agents.

40th-88 845 Shanghai, 19th Dec., 1882
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GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO., LIMITED.

THE undersigned having been appointed
sole Agents for the North of China
for the above Company are prepared to sell
the Company's Cement in lots to suit
customers and to submit contracts for
larger works.

ARNHOLD, KARBBERG & Co.
tf 633 Shanghai, 26th March, 1890.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, 21st January, 1892.

PIECE GOODS.—The closing week has been a featureless one in our Import markets, and with the trifling trade that has been chronicled it is difficult to find "padding" for a report. As Native New Year approaches Chinese become less inclined to operate, unless indeed tempted by bargains, on the other hand importers are of necessity firm, for some substantial improvement in currencies must be established to make up for the shrinkage that has recently taken place in Sterling remitting rates.

Auctions again afford the best indication to the tendency of our markets, and a reference to the details appended shows that prices for Cotton goods are very fully maintained throughout, while Woollen goods are steady except for Camlets where a continuation of increased offerings has weakened prices at the close.

Manchester continues to droop under the influence of increasing Crop estimates, consequent on enormous receipts, and where mills are in immediate want of work distinctly lower prices are being accepted. Bradford on the other hand comes steadier.

Unchopped Goods.—It is highly satisfactory to notice the energetic manner in which the New York Chamber of Commerce have taken up the representations made to them by the Shanghai Chamber on this subject, and it is to be hoped that bringing the importance of the matter before the U.S. Secretary of State may prove an effective measure. The New York Chamber stigmatizes the malpractice as follows:—

"In practice it is counterfeiting on the one hand, and in effect it is stealing the property of honest manufacturers on the other. "Inferior goods are palmed off upon consumers and both the property and reputation of honest manufacturers are deliberately stolen."

The ventilation of straight home truths such as this do more to redress the evil complained of than can be expected from any international legislature.

Stocks are based on the Chamber of Commerce Returns published in my last issue.

Grey Shirtings.—Judging by the sales reported private business has been very unimportant the only transactions recorded being *Blue Globe* 6,000 pieces "to arrive" at \$1.31, *Red Dragon* 900 pieces at \$1.40, and *Blue 5 Men* 600 pieces at \$1.86. The Market is steady but dealers show little inclination to operate. Auction prices are firm generally; at the "Ewo" sale where prompt was for the first time extended over Native New Year an advance of 2 cents. was established.

Light Weights.—Privately have been neglected while auction returns indicate a steady market.

Heavy Weights.—There has been an inclination to operate in odd stock lots of common 10-lbs. but very little business has transpired indeed the only transaction recorded is *Red 7 Child* at \$1.77½. Of better makes 500 pieces *Cow Head* at \$1.90, and 750 pieces *5 Peacock* at \$2.15 net, are in the book.

36-in. 12-lbs.—The only sale I hear of is 190 bales *Common Soldier* chop at \$2.28. The Market is strong more especially for better descriptions.

White Shirtings.—There has been a moderate enquiry for 72-reeds for clearance next native year, but dealers views of values are generally below holders and the only line that has gone through is 8,500 pieces *Stay and Stork* at \$1.77. There has lately been a better movement in White Irishes, but particulars are withheld. Auction rates are very fully maintained.

T-Cloths.—32-in.—An improved demand from Foochow has resulted in a few lines, in the better descriptions, being placed for that market. Of common cloths sales are reported of *Two Fisherman* at \$1.02 net.

Jeans.—English have been sold by auction only at unchanged prices. The sale I reported of American *Beaver* last week was incorrect the chop being held by importers for \$2.15.

Drills.—Sales of English makes are confined to 6,000 pieces *Blue Grouse* at \$2.00 and 1,500 pieces *Soldier* chop at \$2.37½ net. American chops have not been dealt in.

Sheetings.—The market is a blank as regards both American and English makes.

Cotton Yarn.—English—The low prices recently accepted for *Two folds* have attracted some attention to these threads and a fair business has been done for arrival. In single yarns the only sale reported is 50 bales *Two Stork* at \$65.00.

Indian.—Sales made public amount to 1,100 bales only and generally are at irregular prices varying from an advance of a quarter of a tael to a decline of similar extent. Business, however, has not been of sufficient extent to test values and we quote the market steady. Sales are of

10s., *Swadeshi* at \$41, *E. D. Sassoon* at \$41½, *Connaught* at \$44½ and *Howard and Bullough* \$44½.

16s., *Macaroni* at \$48, *Western India* at \$48½ and *David Mill* \$49½.

20s., *Motilal* at \$52, *Currinhoy* at \$51½, *Jas. Greaves* at \$51½ to \$52, *Ripon Mule* at \$51½, *Dhun* at \$49½ and *Jubilee Ring* at \$49½.

Fancy Goods.—Rather more enquiry for light *Turkey Red Cambrics*, sales transpiring of 1½-lbs. *Lion* chop at \$0.95. *Cashmere Crapes* are readily taken up and some 4,000 pieces appear in the book this week at \$1.9.0 for *Kungping No. 2* cargo, and \$1.5.0 for *Two Man*. A line of 10 cases *Kungping Chintz Prints* at \$1.2.5½ completes the record under this heading.

Departures for New York via the usual ports of call and Suez Canal:—Nil.

Quotations are:—Shanghai to London, P. & O. S. N. Co. 25s. per ton for Tea and General cargo; through to New York 35s. 0d. for Tea and General cargo. Shanghai to London, O. S. S. Co. 25s. per ton for Tea and General cargo; through to New York 35s. 0d. for Tea and General cargo. Shanghai to London, Glen Line 25s. per ton for Tea and General cargo; through to New York 35s. 0d. for Tea and General cargo. Shanghai to London, B. N. Line 25s. per ton for Tea and General cargo; through to New York 35s. 0d. for Tea and General cargo. Shanghai to London, S. S. M. S. N. Co. 25s. per ton for Tea and General cargo; through to New York 35s. 0d. for Tea and General cargo. Shanghai to New York, 35s. per ton for Tea and General cargo. Nagasaki to Shanghai. \$1.10 for steamers and sail. Wuhu to Whampoa, 9 cents, per picul nominal.

S-ttlements during the fortnight:—British barque *Florence Trent* 721 tons register, Kuchitnutzu to Singapore, private terms. Disengaged vessel in port: Nil.

Coal.—From Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s Report of 22nd January:—There is little or no demand for any kind nor can we expect any until after the Chinese resume business, which will be some time hence. Nagasaki rates have remained steady.

CARDIFF:—No demand.

AMERICAN ANTHRACITE:—Limited enquiry.

AUSTRALIAN:—Wollongong.—Our market has been very dull since last writing, stocks have been further increased by the arrival of the s.s. *Chingha* on the 16th inst. with 1,421 tons, sailing vessel *Darra* on the 17th inst. with 1,350 tons, the s.s. *Chingha* with 1,600 tons on the 18th inst., the sailing vessel's cargo is being landed for sale, the steamers' cargoes being sold some time previously on private terms; with these arrivals and the small deliveries the market is getting rather overstocked.

JAPAN:—There is no business to report, there is a quantity of Moji and Buzen coal being offered, but nothing as yet has resulted.

Cardiff, ex godown .. 10.00 weak.

American Anthracite, ex godown .. 9.00 quiet.

Sydney, Wollongong, ex sailing ship .. 7.00 weak.

Steamer cargo ex godown .. 7.00 ..

Newcastle, N.S.W., ex godown .. 9.00 nominal.

Japan, Takasima Lump, ex godown .. 5.50 ..

Small .. 4.50 ..

Miké Lump .. 5.00 sales.

Japan, Miké Small, ex godown .. 4.25 sales.

Imaburo, ex godown .. 3.00 firm.

Keelung, Lump, ex godown .. 4.75 nominal.

Hayama, ex godown .. 4.25 sales.

Chikuzen ex godown .. 2.75 steady.

Namazu, ex godown .. 4.25 nominal.

Dust .. 3.00 no stock.

Arrivals during the fortnight have been:—Hayama, 711 tons; Takasima Dust, 1,114 tons; Wollongong, 6,031 tons; Mixed Japan, 2,980 tons; Miké Large, 3,101 tons; Sorachi Dust, 1,551 tons; Karaz, 2,512 tons; Moji, 800 tons; Miké Lump, 757 tons; total, 19,557 tons.

Kerosene Oil.—We have to record a better feeling in our market since our last, as anticipated oil has taken a turn for the better.

Devoe's has been dealt in from \$1.13 upwards and we hear of a fairly large transaction having taken place at \$1.15 prompt unknown, after the Chinese holidays are over we should expect a further improvement, but a great deal depends upon our money market, which at present seems in a very unsettled state. Bitumin has found buyers in small lots at prices fluctuating from \$1.06 to \$1.10 per case for early prompt, at which price the market closes. The arrival during the fortnight is the s.s. *Strathaven* on the 20th inst. with 61,500 cases Devoe's, our stocks including this arrival are 611,493 cases Devoe's and 235,047 cases Russian.

Devoe's .. 1.15 per case, one month's delivery, nominal.

Russian .. 1.10 ..

Local .. no stock.

Exchange.—On London.—Telegraphic Transfers, 4s. 13d. a ½. Bank Bills, demand, 4s. 13d. Bank Bills, 4 months' sight, 4s. 2½d. a ½. First-Class Credits to Banks, 4 months' sight, 4s. 2½d. a ½; 6 months' sight, 4s. 2½d. Private and Documentary, 4 months' sight, 4s. 2½d. a ½; 6 months' sight, 4s. 2½d. On France.—Bank Bills, demand, 4s. 52d; Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 5.31. 6 months' sight, 5.34. On Germany.—Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, Marks 4.30. On New York.—Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 97. On Hongkong.—Telegraphic Transfers, per cent, discount 72½; Private Bills, 3 days' sight, 72½. On Yokohama Telegraphic Transfers, 73½. Private Bills, 30 days' sight, 72½. On Bombay and Calcutta.—Telegraphic Transfers, Rs. 304½. Bank Bills, demand, Rs. 305. Bullion.—Gold Bars, Peking, 98 touch, \$243.00. Silver Bars, \$111.00. Mexican dollars, \$72.4. Carolus dollars, \$78.50. Copper Cash, 1,370. Chinese Interest, more 0 1. Bar Silver in London, per oz 42. 9/8.

DAILY QUOTATIONS.

(From Messrs. Morris & Ferguson's Circular.)

Jan.	Dut silver per oz in L'don.	ON LONDON.								FRANCE.		GERMANY.	N. YK.	HONGKONG.	YOKOHAMA.	INDIA.
		TELEGRAPHIC TRANSFERS.		BANK 4 MOS.		CREDITS 4 MOS.		DRAFTS 4 MOS.		FRANCE 4 MOS. and 6 mos.		m/c. Priv.	Drafts 4 m/c.		T/T.	Rupees T/T.
		Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.					
16th	42½	4.1½	4.1½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	5.33/5.36	5.34/5.37	4.32	96½	72½	73½	305
18th	43	4.1½	4.1½	4.2½	4.2½	4.3	4.3	4.3½	4.3½	5.36/5.39	5.36/5.39	4.34	96	72½	73½	305
19th	43	4.1½	4.1½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	4.3	5.34/5.37	5.35/5.38	4.33	96½	72½	73½	305
20th	42½	4.1½	4.1½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	5.29/5.32	5.32/5.35	4.30	96½/97½	72½	73½	305
21st	42½	4.1½	4.1½	4.2	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	5.28/5.31	5.29/5.32	4.29	97½	72½	73½	304½
22nd	42½	4.1½	4.1½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	5.31/5.34	5.31/5.34	4.30	97	72½	73½	304½

AUCTION SALES.

Auction for the week ending 21st January, 1892, comprised the following Goods:—

For the week.				Previous week.				Corresponding week last year.				For the week.				Previous week.				Corresponding week last year.				
				pcs. against				pcs. and				pcs. against				pcs. and				pcs. and				
Grey Shirtings.....	24,205				23,700			and	25,030			Velvets												
White Shirtings	11,800				12,800				9,100			Velveteens												
T-Cloths	4,230				4,555				4,220			Cotton Yarn		bales										bls.
Drills, English	540				440				360			Camlets	1,090	pec.			1,070							1,830 pec
Jeans, ...	60				90				250			Long Ells	660				640							720
Sheetings, English	1,460				1,460				1,380			Lastings	600				680							660
Turkey Reds												Spanish Stripes.....	702				768							924

PIECE GOODS.

At Ta-koo, 19th January—

Grey Shirtings—7-lbs.—490 pieces; Steamer \$1.04½, Blue Dragon \$1.06.

8.4-lbs.—1,680 pieces; Blue Eagle \$1.03½, Man and Horse \$1.14½, Steamer \$1.30½, Blue Dragon \$1.56/56½.

10-lbs.—100 pieces; Blue Dragon \$1.93½.

11-lbs.—250 pieces; Steamer \$2.05½, Blue Dragon \$2.28½.

T. Cloths—7-lbs.—525 pieces; Blue Eagle \$0.96, Man and Horse No. 2 \$1.17½, Steamer \$1.29½, Silver Dragon \$1.39.

7.4-lbs.—375 pieces; Gold No. 3 \$1.43½, No. 2 \$1.53½, No. 1 \$1.61½.

8-lbs.—720 pieces; Man and Horse \$1.35, Steamer \$1.55½/56½ and Silver Dragon \$1.60½.

8.4-lbs.—360 pieces; Gold No. 3 \$1.60, No. 2 \$1.67½/68, No. 1 \$1.84½.

At E-wo, 20th January—

Grey Shirtings—8.4-lbs.—1,500 pieces; *Blue Bell* £1.68, *Blue Tea Caddy DDD* £1.76½/76½, *Blue 2 Tea Caddy* £1.87½.
10-lbs.—750 pieces; *Red Crab* £1.87½/88, *Blue Tea Caddy DDD* £2.16½/17.

At Yuen-fong, 21st January—

Grey Shirtings—6-lbs.—600 pieces; *Lotus* £0.71½, *Two Man* £0.73½.

7-lbs.—3,750 pieces; *Blue Britannia* £1.04½/05, *Blue 4 Sister* £1.06, 06½, *Blue 3-Students* £1.19/19½.

8.4-lbs.—7,155 pieces; *Two Man* £1.07½/08½, *House* £1.09/09½, *do. Star* £1.07½/08, *Blue Britannia* £1.24½/24½, *Blue 4 Sister* £1.33½/33½, *Blue 3-Students* £1.35½/35½, *Blue Double Shield* £1.37½/38, *Red Grand Father* £1.44½, *Red Saint Child* £1.53½, *Red 3 Students* £1.44½/45½, *Five Brothers* £1.72½.

10-lbs.—4,500 pieces; *Blue Britannia* £1.57½/58½, *Red do.* £1.86½/86½, *Red 3-Students* £1.86/86½, *do. Star* £1.82½, *Red Emperor's Birthday* £1.89/89½ and *Red 4-Sisters AAA* £2.07/08½.

10.12-lbs.—850 pieces; *Gold Britannia* £2.14½.

11-lbs.—1,500 pieces; *Painted 3-Students* £2.13½/13½.

12-lbs.—1,080 pieces; *Nine Lions* £2.07/07½, and *Soldier* £2.25½/25½.

White Shirtings—64-reel, 5,550 pieces; *House bright* £1.32/32½, *do. dull* £1.31½/31½, *Blue Double Lighthouse bright* £1.36/36½, *do. dull* £1.33½, *Black and Gold 3-Students* £1.61½/61½.

72-reel—6,250 pieces; *White and Gold 3-Students* £1.78½, *Red 2 Sister* £1.76½/77½, *Red Double Lighthouse bright* £1.80½, *do. dull* £1.76½/77, *do. Star* £1.72, *Red Gold Star bright* £2.08½/09, *dull* £2.03½/03½, *Red 5 Star XX bright* £2.15½, *do. dull* £2.14/14½.

T-Cloths—7-lbs.—1,300 pieces; *Blue 3 Students* £0.96, *Blue Lion* £1.16/16½, *Red Double Shield* £1.16½, *Red 3-Students* £1.24½.

8-lbs.—950 pieces; *Blue Lion* £1.38½/38½, and *Painted 3-Students* £1.60½.

Sheetings—English.—14-lbs.—1,100 pieces; *Lion-on-Cloud* £2.15½/15½, *Old Man Head B* £2.15½/15½, *Nine Lion* £2.21/21½.

15-lbs.—360 pieces; *Old Man Head A* £2.30½/30½.

Drills—English.—14-lbs.—360 pieces; *Britannia* £2.26½/27½, and *Old Man Head* £2.35/35½.

Do. *do.* 15-lbs.—180 pieces; *Running Deer* £2.05½/05½.

Jeans—English.—8-lbs.—60 pieces; *Double Squirrel* £1.78½.

AUCTION SALES OF WOOLLENS DURING THE WEEK.

Chops	Scarlet.	10k. Blue.	Dk. Gentian	Green, and N. Green.	Orange and Yellow.	Ash & Lav.	White Purple.	Black.	*Brown & Mag.	Manve.	1st. Gr. Mid. ..	Sales Pcs.
	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	
Camlets.												
Lighthouse S.S.G. ppe	9.90	10 50/52½	9.87½ 90	10.82½	10.57½	...	...	...	...	9.72½/75	9.62½/65	
Sales, pes. ...	120	40	80	10	10	...	...	...	...	20	20*	300
9 Old Man, S.S.H. p.	9.50	9 77½	9.62½	9.82½	9.80	...	...	...	...	9.37½/40	9.27½/32½	
Sales, pes. ...	120	60	60	10	10	...	...	...	...	20	20*	300
Goose, C.P.H. p. pe.	9.28/29	...	9.50	9.21	...	...	...	...	...	9.16	...	
Sales, pes. ...	40	...	10	10*	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	70
Man & Horse, p. pe.	9 15/19	...	9.49	9.29	9.44/45	...	...	...	...	9.20	...	
Sales, pes. ...	90	...	20	20*	30	...	...	...	...	10	...	170
Bear, p. pe.	8.83	...	8.54/56	8.44	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pes. ...	20	...	10*	10*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Double Deer p. pe.	8 65	...	7.95	8.10	8.3	...	...	...	...	8.02	...	
Sales, pes. ...	30	...	10	10*	10	...	...	...	...	10	...	70
Fish, P.P.P. p. pe.	9.12/14	9.27	9.29	9.44	9.58/9.68*	8.68	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pes. ...	30	20	10	10	20	10*	...	...	...	...	...	100
Double Cock, p. pe.	...	...	9.15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pes. ...	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
3 D-g, p. pe.	...	...	8.70	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pes. ...	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Long Ells.												
Lighthouse G.G.L. p.	5 07/08	...	...	5.67	4.78	...	...	4.90	...	...	...	
Sales, pes. ...	140	...	...	2	20	...	...	20	...	...	...	200
Tiger & Ring, C.P.H. p.	4.50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pes. ...	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Horse Head, H.D.B. p.	4 87/88	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pes. ...	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Double Phoenix, p. pe.	4 60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pes. ...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Tiger C.P.H., p. pe.	4.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pes. ...	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Buffalo Head, p. pe.	4.57/58	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pes. ...	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Lastings.												
Ship G.G.L. p. pe.	...	...	8.42½	...	...	...	...	8.37½	...	...	8.57½	
Sales, pes. ...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	200	...	...	20	300
9 Old Man, F.F.R. p. p.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7.25	...	...	7.17½	
Sales, pes. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	...	...	20	200
Tiger, C.P.H., p. pe.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8.09/10	...	...	...	
Sales, pes. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	...	...	...	100
Spanish Stripes.												
Britannia T.T.B. p. yd.	0.46½/46½	0.44½	0.43½	...	0.43½	...	...	0.38½	0.41½	...	0.44½	0.43½
Sales, pes. ...	60	12	6	...	6	...	...	6	6	...	6	21
Single Phoenix, p. yd.	0.44/44.1	...	0.38.7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sales, pes. ...	120	...	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
H.H., p. yd.	0.45.6/45.7	0.44.1	0.47.35/47.4	0.44	...	0.43.05	...	0.42.1	0.38.6	...	...	0.41½
Sales, pes. ...	72	12	30	6	...	6	...	6	6	...	...	6
Dragon, H.G.H. p. yd.	0.43.45/43	0.41.7	0.38.1	0.38.3	0.38.9	...	...	...	...	0.38½	0.36.6	...
Sales, pes. ...	24	12	12	6	6	...	...	...	...	6	6	72
Sea Horse, B.T.I. p. yd.	0.44½/44.6	0.43.1	0.37.55/37.6	0.39½/39.8	0.41	0.38.35	0.43.7	0.40.6	0.38.95	0.39.1	0.38.35	...
Sales, pes. ...	36	6	18	12*	6	18	6	12	24	18	6	162
Pige Head, p. yd.	0.41½	...	0.34½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.35	...
Sales, pes. ...	6	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	18

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 26th January, 1892, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 11 to 16, both numbers inclusive.

RE-EXPORTS AND THEIR DESTINATIONS.

Goods.	Ningpo.	Wenchow.	Chinkiang.	Wuhu.	Kiangkiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Higo.	Yokohama.	Corea.	Local.	Sundries.
Grey Shirtings † Pcs.	1,470	320	14,136	720	7,935	47,030	3,820	...	...	1,225	...	4200	...	...	...	9,500	...
T-Cloths, 32-in. "	135	540	2,201	75	1,170	1,530	2,060	...	...	2,730	1575	...	...	...	...	4,200	...
" 36-in. "	220	...	360	...	400	180	...	...	...	1200	...	...	...	...	...	3,500	...
White Shirtings "	100	500	1,050	80	2,390	20,520	596	...	...	150	...	...	...	...	...	6,000	...
Drills, English & Dutch ... "	...	15	315	...	...	310	890	...	...	90	150	...	600	...	...	180	...
" American "	...	30	420	...	24	2,100	165	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	...
Jeans, English & Dutch ... "	...	...	20	...	...	150	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	280	...
" American "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80	...
Sheetings, English "	...	...	1,040	300	1,170	2,580	970	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	400	...
" American "	40	...	360	...	...	3,470	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200	...
Dyed Shirtings "	...	...	2,040	...	50	770	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	...
Brocades & Sp. S'tings, Wh. "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" " Dyed "	...	...	...	...	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	...
Chintzes "	...	...	160	...	...	260	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	300	...
Printed T-Cloths "	...	...	1,480	110	760	2,384	230	...	...	240	...	...	...	...	...	400	...
Printed Twills "	60	...	326	...	...	558	84	...	...	...	240	...	...	...	...	200	...
Turkey Red Shirtings "	247	270	926	150	981	2,823	5,485	...	...	244	400	...	...	...	...	150	...
Velvets "	...	...	60	...	178	160	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80	...
Velveteens "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60	...
Handkerchiefs Doz.	...	...	920	840	920	2,480	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,500	...
Muslins Pcs.	...	...	...	...	...	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	300	...
Lenos & Balzarines "	80	...	270	...	110	120	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	...
Cotton Yarn, Indian Pcs.	63	9	579	72	531	2,826	2,874	...	...	60	...	15	...	...	...	50	...
" English "	...	...	15	...	24	387	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25	...
Spanish Stripes, Woollen... Pcs.	...	54	102	24	174	222	48	...	...	30	6	...	...	...	...	100	...
" Cotton "	...	6	168	...	...	6	24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	160	...
Medium and Broad Cloths ... "	...	6	18	...	10	174	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	70	...
Camlets "	...	210	50	10	380	990	10	...	...	90	50	...	...	...	...	80	...
Long Ells "	20	60	140	...	320	720	...	...	...	60	...	...	...	...	...	100	...
Lastings "	...	60	...	20	390	1,361	100	...	...	60	40	...	...	...	...	200	...
Italian Cloth "	...	30	90	...	...	569	...	...	...	60	...	...	...	...	...	150	...
Cotton Lastings & Italians ... "	80	130	2,369	70	230	3,516	940	...	...	60	...	...	...	240	80	500	...
Lustres, Plain "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Figured Orleans "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	150	...
Cotton Flannels "	...	...	40	...	60	80	...	...	...	70	...	...	...	...	...	250	...
Lead in Pigs Pcs.	121	6	229	...	621	781	...	...	...	...	156	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod "	642	...	1,415	118	168	672	714	...	...	...	42	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kerosine Oil, American ... Cas.	5,400	9,000	1,600	12,000	1,780	5,000	1,010	...	...	1,500	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Russian "	...	...	8,000	200	...	1,000	...	...	...	1,200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Peruvian "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

TOTAL DELIVERIES.

TOTAL IMPORTS.

STOCKS AT DATE ARE BASED
ON THE CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE RETURNS,
ON 31ST DEC., 1891.

Goods.	As above.	For the Year from 1st Jan., 1891.	Against last year to same term	For the week.	For the year from 1st Jan. 1891.*	Against last year to same term.	* At date Estimated.	Against 14th Jan., 1891.
Grey Shirtings † Pcs.	90,356	153,331	122,919	16,514	19,014	210,609	1,199,807	1,957,912
T-Cloths, 32-in. "	16,216	24,936	19,906	450	450	64,625	189,407	419,242
" 36-in. "	5,860	9,830	9,390	500	500	14,040	55,075	126,558
White Shirtings "	31,386	47,469	28,535	496	496	128,094	585,225	759,121
Drills, English & Dutch ... "	2,550	3,820	4,485	105	105	14,115	86,401	119,564
" American "	2,839	4,124	3,090	...	...	2,250	91,811	168,804
Jeans, English & Dutch ... "	450	1,090	1,790	500	500	7,790	65,928	67,665
" American "	80	160	300	...	...	...	?	114,080
Sheetings, English "	6,460	9,700	6,370	...	...	45,148	234,215	300,216
" American "	4,070	4,730	4,080	...	...	3,000	311,265	144,150
Dyed Shirtings "	3,010	5,260	1,810	...	...	1,870	25,395	29,579
Brocades & Sp. S'tings, Wh. "	...	...	100	...	...	...	1,874	1,209
" " Dyed "	200	430	630	...	...	4,269	8,147	11,553
Chintzes "	720	1,250	1,186	...	...	720	20,082	31,390
Printed T-Cloths "	5,604	10,079	3,105	...	...	18,363	176,031	294,101
Printed Twills "	1,468	2,634	1,487	...	...	2,473	24,935	60,707
Turkey Red Shirtings "	11,676	14,518	3,577	27,800	27,850	7,041	400,863	141,882
Velvets "	478	922	472	...	...	960	1,898	6,366
Velveteens "	60	156	270	...	...	428	3,158	2,930
Handkerchiefs Doz.	7,760	12,480	12,254	1,030	1,030	11,207	125,289	224,868
Muslins Pcs.	500	1,000	2,900	996	996	11,200	54,929	55,144
Lenos & Balzarines "	680	830	260	...	...	2,394	36,905	21,223
Cotton Yarn, Indian Pcs.	7,079	11,627	7,401	3,345	3,348	17,340	68,489	96,226
" English "	511	1,027	258	...	...	1,503	17,752	31,220
Spanish Stripes, Woollen... "	760	984	918	...	...	1,872	2,648	24,868
" Cotton "	304	570	364	...	...	...	4,075	1,923
Medium and Broad Cloths ... "	278	426	274	...	...	738	10,240	10,046
Camlets "	1,870	2,970	1,660	...	...	2,780	14,420	22,656
Long Ells "	1,420	1,820	1,990	...	...	3,600	9,340	16,826
Lastings "	2,231	3,061	2,618	...	...	4,897	12,918	63,301
Italian Cloth "	899	1,320	...	...	...	24,892	22,083	...
Cotton Lastings & Italians ... "	8,215	12,415	7,044	150	150	...	170,505	26,661
Lustres, Plain "	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,850	1,136
Figured Orleans "	150	...	680	...	...	600	6,750	8,650
Cotton Flannels "	500	1,144	1,240	...	...	...	37,765	86,136
Lead in Pigs Pcs.	1,914	2,350	3,053	...	...	...	8,446	46,613
Iron—Nail Rod "	3,771	4,502	2,535	...	...	11,418	148,255	76,829
Kerosine Oil, American ... Cas.	37,290	49,090	46,192	...	...	...	550,193	272,445
" Russian "	10,400	14,400	23,900	...	...	...	288,047	85,940
" Peruvian "	...	5,220	...	...	26,002	...	...	...

† Including English and Dutch 12-lbs.

* Exclusive of undeclared Import Cargoes per *Glenfruin*, *Stuttgart*, *Nester*, *Mcynne*, *Tencer*, *Sydney*, *Empress of China*, *Malwa*, *Canton*, *Glenarvon*, *Saghalien*, *Chingtu* and *Prometheus*.

Import Cargoes declared during interval: *Ravenna*, *Diomed* and *Pathan*.

‡ From the daily returns from the Wharves.

S H A R E S.

SHANGHAI, 22nd January, 1892.

BANKS.—*Hongkong and Shanghai Bank.*—A transaction at 165 per cent., ex. 73, is reported; we consider this above the market. *Hongkong* advises received to-day quote sellers at 162 per cent. prem., equal to 161½ per cent. prem., ex. 73, at which rate we quote the stock. *Bank of China, Japan and the Straits.*—A rapid improvement has to be noted in the stock. Business was done in the early part of the week at \$8.50 and \$8.75, but later a demand for shares raised the market at \$10.50.

SHIPPING.—*Taku Tug and Lighter Co.*—Business is reported at T. \$59.00. *Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steam Boats.*—Shares have changed hands at \$35.50 for March and \$36.25 for April.

DOCKS.—*Boyd & Co., Ltd.*—Shares have again been sold at \$130.

INSURANCE.—(MARINE).—Business is reported in *Yangtze Insurance* at \$75.00. (FIRE).—*Hongkong Fire Insurance* shares have changed hands at \$30, *China Fire Insurance* at \$90, and *Straits Fire Insurance* at \$17.00.

WHARVES.—A transaction is reported in *Shanghai and Hongkong Wharf* shares at \$270.

MIXING.—*Imuria Mines* have changed hands at \$8 to \$10. The market closes steady at the latter rate. *Belmonts* have been sold at \$180 for February.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Business has been done in *Shanghai Waterworks* at \$170 and 172.50, *Shanghai Lands* at \$30.25 and \$30.50, and *Llewellyn & Co.* at \$97.50.

SHARES.	No.	Value.	Paid up.	POSITION PER LAST REPORT.			LAST DIVIDEND, &c.		CASH QUOTATIONS.		
				Reserve.	At Working Account.	Date.	To Share- holders.	When pd. or due.	Closing.		
Banks.											
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Co.	£0.000	\$175	\$175	6,300,000.00	\$113,872.25	30 June 91	£1.10	4 Aug 91	161½ %	Tails.	
New Oriental Bank Corp., Ltd.	58,800	£10	£10	.....	£20,496.12	31 Mar. 91	+ 3 %	16 Jun 91	.....	238.62	
Bank of China, Jap. & Straits, Ltd.	99,875	£10	£14	£225,000	£2,111.15	31 Dec. 90	+ 0.88	14 Feb. 91	.....	48.68	
Do. (new issue)	100,000	£10	£14	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10.50	
Do. Founders'	1,250	£1	£1	.....	.....	.....	+ \$35.23	14 Feb. 91	.....	10.25	
Shipping.											
Shanghai Tug Boat Co., Ltd.	1,000	£100	£100	.....	£1,232.70	31 Dec. 90	+ 14	12 Oct. 91	.....	88.00	
Indo-China Steam Nav. Co., Ltd.	49,589	£10	£10	£40,000.00	£882.60	31 Dec. 90	+ 2½	1 June 91	.....	30.75	
Shanghai Shipping Co., Ltd.	150	£1,000	£1,000	.....	£2,305.74	30 June 91	+ 5 %	21 July 91	.....	50.00	
China Shippers' Mutual S. N. Co.	12,145	£20	£15	£85,000.00	£8,784.17	31 Dec. 90	+ 2 %	14 Sept. 91	£15	67.84	
C. S. M. S. N. Co. New Issue.	6,000	£20	£11	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Taku Tug and Lighter Co., Ltd.	8,600	T. \$50	T. \$50	£12,000.00	£15,146.91	31 Dec. 90	+ \$3.50	20 July 91	T. \$60	63.30	
H'kong, Canton & Macao S. B. Co.	80,000	\$20	20	\$835,000	\$311.19	30 June 91	+ 4 %	1 Aug. 91	\$35.00	25.55	
Docks.											
Shanghai Dock Co., Ltd.	440	\$500	\$500	\$20,000.00	\$132.80	31 Dec. 91	+ \$12	12 Jan. 92	.....	400.00	
Canton Dock Co., Ltd.	950	\$100	\$100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	nominal	
Do. Preference shares	550	\$60	\$60	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	nominal	
Boyd & Co., Limited	7,800	\$100	\$100	.....	.....	.....	First year.	.....	.....	130.00	
Do. Founders'	200	\$100	\$100	.....	.....	.....	First year.	.....	.....	20.00	
Gas.											
Shanghai Gas Co., Ltd.	2,000	\$100	\$100	\$100,000.00	\$4,959.81	31 Dec. 90	+ 6 %	14 Jan. 92	.....	\$09.00	
Compagnie du Gaz, in Liq.	500	\$100	\$100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	nominal	
Insurance (Marine).											
China Traders' Ins. Co., Ltd.	24,000	\$83.33	\$75	\$70,000.00	\$247,418.10	30 Apr. 91	+ \$4.50	18 Sept. 91	\$61.50	44.89	
North-China Ins. Co., Ltd.	5,000	£200	£200	£20,000.00	£444,996.94	30 June 91	\$26.23	22 Apr. 90	.....	260.00	
Union, Society of Canton Ltd.	10,000	\$250	\$250	\$60,000.00	\$48,390.02	30 June 91	+ 6 %	11 Oct. 91	\$12.00	67.16	
Yangtze Insurance Ass'n Ltd.	6,948	\$100	\$100	\$59,102.01	.....	16 Apr. 91	+ \$50	10 Mar. 90	.....	75.00	
Chinese Insurance Co., Limited	1,500	\$100	\$200	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	nominal	
Canton Insurance Office	10,000	\$250	\$50	\$50,000.00	\$38,196.18	30 Sept. 91	\$5	1 Jan. 92	\$103.00	75.19	
Straits Insurance Co., Limited.	30,000	\$100	\$20	\$25,000	\$216,615.09	31 Dec. 90	+ 5 %	4 July 91	\$13.00	9.50	
Insurance (Fire).											
Hongkong Fire Ins. Co., Limited	8,000	\$250	\$50	\$1,000,000	\$285,007.23	31 Dec. 90	+ \$18	4 Mar. 91	\$320.00	233.60	
China Fire Ins. Co., Limited	70,000	\$100	\$20	\$748,000.00	\$171,876.04	31 Dec. 90	+ \$6	10 Mar. 91	\$90.00	65.70	
Straits Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	20,000	\$100	\$20	\$60,000.00	\$108,840.55	31 Dec. 90	+ 8½ %	27 Mar. 91	\$17.50	12.41	
Singapore Insurance Co., Ltd.	29,176	\$100	\$20	\$37,500.78	\$30,874.14	31 Dec. 89	+ \$0.70	26 Apr. 90	\$10.00	7.30	
Wharves.											
Shanghai & P'ken Wharf Co., Ltd.	867	\$100	\$100	\$89,089.75	\$798.20	31 Dec. 90	+ \$6	10 Aug. 91	.....	270.00	
Wharf, Hide-Curing and Wood-Cleaning Company, Ltd.	1,100	\$50	\$50	\$10,000.00	.....	31 Oct. 90	+ 34 %	9 Nov. 90	.....	42.50	
Canton Wharf & Godown Co., Ltd.	2,300	\$100	\$100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	nominal	
H'kong & K'owloon Wh. & C. Co., Ltd.	50,000	\$50	\$50	.....	\$2,585.92	31 Dec. 90	+ 2.00	10 Aug. 91	\$70.00	0.75	
Mining.											
Sherridan Mining Co., Ltd.	3,000	\$100	\$100	\$46,430.85	\$87,111.90	17 Mar. 91	+ \$10	1 Sept. 91	.....	350.00	
Mendota Mining Co., Ltd.	3,000	\$100	\$100	\$26,107.50	\$42,017.61	17 Mar. 91	13.00	1 Sept. 91	.....	300.00	
Singapore United Mining Co., Ltd.	50,000	\$100	\$100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	nominal	
Selama Tin Mining Co., Ltd.	120,000	\$5	\$5	.....	\$40,615.09	30 June 90	None.	.....	\$2.75	0.44	
Do. do.	20,000	\$5	\$5	.....	.....	.....	First year.	.....	\$8.50	2.01	
Imuria Mines, Ltd.	100,000	£1	£1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6.20	
Belmont Consolidated Mining Co.	3,500	\$100	\$100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10.00	
Cargo Boats.											
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co., Ltd.	1,000	\$200	\$200	\$3,003.47	\$2,686.26	31 Dec. 90	+ 4 %	5 Aug. 91	.....	205.00	
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co., Ltd.	1,000	\$100	\$100	\$5,000.00	\$1,985.71	31 Dec. 90	+ 2½	3 Aug. 91	.....	65.10	
Miscellaneous.											
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.	7,200	£20	£20	\$21,192.00	\$2,748.42	31 Dec. 90	3 %	30 July 91	.....	172.50	
Fraser & Neave Cultivation Co., Ltd.	5,000	\$50	\$50	.....	\$11,787.78	31 May 91	None.	.....	.....	14.00	
Halla Holz Comp'ny Co., Ltd.	6,000	\$50	\$50	.....	\$15,340.12	28 Feb. 90	+ 12	15 May 90	.....	21.00	
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd.	1,500	\$100	\$100	\$10,345.15	\$22,151.31	31 Dec. 90	+ \$6	15 Feb. 91	\$130.00	94.90	
New Shanghai Electric Co., Ltd.	300	\$100	\$100	.....	\$676.14	31 Dec. 90	+ 17	11 Mar. 91	.....	95.00	
Sb. Land Investment Co., Ltd.	20,000	\$50	\$50	.....	\$456.76	31 Dec. 90	4½ %	4 Mar. 91	.....	30.50	
J. Llewellyn & Co., Ltd.	1,200	\$100	\$100	.....	\$08.34	5 May 91	+ \$5	13 Nov. 91	\$97.50	71.17	
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.	1,800	\$50	\$50	\$1,000.00	\$1,376.56	31 Dec. 90	+ \$2.50	21 Oct. 91	.....	10.50	
Major Brothers, Limited	6,000	\$50	\$50	.....	.....	.....	+ \$2.50	16 Nov. 91	.....	53.00	
Y'ham's Engin. & Iron Works, Ltd.	1,300	\$100	\$100	\$17,500.00	\$1,185.60	31 May 89	\$8	31 May 90	\$125.00	91.25	
Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco Co., Ltd.	650	\$100	\$100	.....	\$517.45	31 Dec. 90	None.	.....	\$250.00	182.60	
Do. do. new issue	650	\$10	\$100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$150.00	109.50	
Shanghai Luncheon Co., Ltd.	1,600	\$50	\$50	.....	.....	.....	First year.	.....	.....	70.00	
L'Hôtel des Colonies, Limited	1,500	\$50	\$50	.....	.....	.....	7½ %	15 Aug. 90	.....	50.00	
Shanghai Ice Co., Ltd.	360	\$100	\$100	.....	.....	31 Oct. 91	7½ %	15 Aug. 90	.....	32.00	
				99.83	.....	.....	7 %	6 Jan. 92	.....	110.00	

LOANS.		Amount of Loan.	Outstanding.	Nominal Value.	Rate of interest.	When Payable.	Closing.
Shanghai Amn. Debentures—Issue 1883		\$45,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$100	7 %	Dec. & June.	\$105.00
Do. 1885		\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$100	7 %	Do.	\$105 non.
Do. 1888		\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00	\$100	6 %	Do.	\$105
China Merchants' S. N. Co. Debentures.		\$200,000	\$170,000	\$100	7 %	Quarterly	\$102(a)
Lycium Theatre Debentures		\$17,000.00	\$17,000.00	\$25	4 %	15 Sept. '90	\$461.89
Shanghai Government Loan 1884		\$1,594,700.14	\$688,145.05	\$500	5 %	15th Oct.	\$11.00
Do. do. 1886		\$767,200.00	\$732,950.00	\$250	7 %	Mar. & Sept.	\$365.00
							\$275.00

* For half-year. † For quarter year. ‡ For year. § A deficit. ¶ Reserve for equalization of dividends. (a) Exclusive of accrued interest.

J. P. BISSET & Co.